

ديوان لقيط بن يعمر



حققه وَقَدْم لَه الدكتورعب للمعيد خان

مؤسّسةالرسالة

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بب المدارحيم الرحيم

لقيط بن يعمر الإيادي أول شاعر قومي في الجاهلية

يعد لقيط في المقدّمين من شعراء الجاهلية ولكن الذين ترجموا له أغفلوا الحديث عن حياته وشعره إلا نتفأ يسيرة ؛ ويبدو أنه عاش في فترة عصيبة من تاريخ العرب حين اتحدت قبائل الحيرة العربية لأوّل مرة وثارت على الحكم الفارسي وكان للقيط دوره الفعّال في تلك اليقظة القومية ، إذ استطاع بقصيدته العينية المشهورة أن يقنع قبائل إياد بالاتحاد والاحتشاد لمواجهة الجيوش الفارسية الزاحفة ، كي تتمكن من طرح النير الفارسي ؛ ومن أجل هذا الموقف التاريخي تستحق حياة لقيط وعصره وشعره دراسة مفصّلة . غير أن الدارس لسوء الحظ ـ يواجه روايات متعارضة متناقضة حول اسمه وحياته والمناسبة التي قال فيها قصيدته المشهورة ، ولهذا حاولت فيما يلي أن أصحح التعارض وأن أحدد عصره وأن أرسم صورة محكمة لحياة لقيط وشعره في إطار صحيح .

اسم الشاعر : هو لقيط الإيادي عند كل من ابن عبد ربه ⁽ (ــــ ٣٢٧)

۱ العقد ۳ : ۹۷

والمبرد ' (– ٢٨٥) ولكن كلاً من ابن دريد ' (– ٣٢٢) والجاحظ ' (– ٢٥٥) والآمدي ' (– ٣٧٠) يسميه لقيط ابن معبد . بينما يرد اسمه عند فريق ثالث فيهم ابن الشجري ' (– ٢٤٥) والبكري ' (– ٢٨٧) وياقوت الحموي ' (– ٢٢٦) لقيط بن يعمر ، ويسميه ابن قتيبة ^ (– ٢٧٦) وابن منظور ' (– ٢١١) صاحب لسان العرب : و لقيط بن معمر » . وينفرد أبو الفرج الإصفهاني (– ٣٥٦) بتسميته و لقيط بن بكر » ' . وأما المولفون المحدثون مثل الزركلي '' والمرصفي '' ورضا كحاله '' فقد آثروا تسميته و لقيط بن يعمر » استناداً على ما ذكره ابن الشجري ، وذلك هو ما ورد في نسخة ديوانه ، وهو ما يمكن أن يوخذ بالقبول .

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قبيلة الشاعر :

لم ينسبه أحد إلى قبيلة أزد سوى ياقوت الحموي ' ، وأما لسائر المصادر فإنها تنسبه إلى قبيلة إياد ، أحد الفروع الأربعة التي يتفرع فيها نزار بن معد بن عدنان ، وهي : ربيعة ومضر وأنمار وإياد ، وهم الذين يعدهم النسابون أبناء نزار الذين استقروا في تهامة ` ، وكانت إياد بينهم تحظى بمنزلة عالية وتقدير بالغ ؛ ولكنها اضطرت لتغادر مستوطنها وتهاجر إلى مناطق مختلفة في الجزيرة العربية ، لأسباب مختلفة ، فيقال إن إياداً غادرت تهامة بسبب القحط ، ونزلت في نواحي العراق في منطقة واقعة بين البحرين وسنداد والخورنق ، وبدأ عددها ينتشر على ضفة الفرات حتى بلغت حدود الجزيرة العربية ؛ ثم أخذت تهاجم المواطنين الآمنين في العراق ، وبلغت هجماتها ذروتها حين سبت عروساً فارسية نبيلة المحتد كانت تزف إلى زوجها ؛ فأثار ذلك غضب الملك الفارسي ، وحفزه إلى إرسال جيش كبير من الفرسان لمهاجمة إياد ، فهجمت إياد على جيش الملك وقضت عليه ، وتكلست جماجم القتلى في أرض المعركة ، حتى سمّي اسم الدير الذي أنشىء هنالك باسم دير الجماجم " ، فأعاد كسرى الكَرة وأرسل جيشاً أقوى وأكبر استطاع أن يقضي على بأس إياد ، فنزل بعض من بقي منها في منطقة رومانية في حوض الفرات الأعلى ، ووالى بعضهم ملوك الحبرة ، وتفرّق آخرون في جهات مختلفة من جزيرة العرب .

وتقول رواية أخرى إن إياداً غادرت تهامة موطنها الأصلي واستقرت في نواحي الجزيرة العراقية حين هزمت في الحرب التي نشبت بينها وبين مضر وربيعة ، وبعد سبي العروس الفارسية المذكورة نفتها الجيوش الفارسية

- ١ معجم البلدان ٥ : ١١٤
- ۲ معجم ما استعجم ۱ : ۲۷ ۷۱
- ٣ معجم ما استعجم ١ : ٦٧ ٧٢ ؛ والأغاني ٢٠ : ٢٣

عن العراق كله ^١ . وينقل مؤلف معجم قبائل العرب عن تاريخ الطبري وطبقات ابن سعد أن إياداً اضطرت إلى الهجرة نحو الجزيرة العراقية في أول القرن الثالث الميلادي حين استولت مضر على ما جاور الكعبة من مناطق مقدسة ؛ وحين غادرت موطنها سكنت في ضواحي الكوفة ، فلما أصابتها مجاعة شديدة انقسمت في ثلاث فرق ، فرقة ذهبت نحو البحر وهلكت ، وفرقة توجهت إلى اليمن ، بينما قصدت الفرقة الثالثة ديار بكر ابن وائل ، فتوزعت بين سنداد وكاظمة وبقيت دنالك تغزو المستوطنين من فلاحي الجزيرة العراقية حتى طردتها الجيوش الفارسية من ذلك الموطن ؛ وبعد حادثة السبي هاجرت إلى نواحي الشام .

ويباو أن هذا النفي قد تم قبل عهد لقيط بزمن طويل ، إذ انه يصف إياداً في بيتين من قصيدته (رقم ١٦ ، ١٧) – في ضرب من السخرية – بأنها منهمكة في حرث الأرض واستنتاج المواشي بينا يدبّر الفرس الخطّة للقضاء عليها . ومما يويد ذلك أن كثيراً من أفراد تلك القبيلة قد تخلوا عن حياة البداوة وانتحلوا شيئاً من الحضارة وأصبح لهم صيت في العلم والفروسية والكتابة عن الملوك . ويذكر الجاحظ عدداً من خطباء إياد ، ويويد قوله مستشهداً بهذا البيت ' :

كقس إياد أو لقيط بن معبد وعذرة والمنطيق زيد بن جندب

كذلك أنجبت إياد شعراء مشهورين مثل أبي دواد بن جرير الإيادي الذي كان على خيل المنذر الثالث " ، ولقيط بن يعمر الذي كان كاتباً عند

- ا معجم ما استعجم ا : ٦٧ ٧٢ ؛ والأغاني ٢٠ : ٣٣ ، وكتاب الشعر والشعراء : ٩٧ – ٩٨
 - ۲ البیان والتبیین ۱ : ۵۷ ۱۹
 - ٣ المفضليات (تحقيق ليال) ٢ : ١٥٢ ١٥٣

ملوك الفرس في الديوان ' . ويقال إن بعض الإياديين كانوا رماة بارعين ^٢ وانه كان منهم أيضاً كتاب تعلم العرب منهم الكتابة ^٣ .

دين إياد :

ذكرت المصادر أن إياداً كانت في القديم تعبد صنماً يدعى ذا الكعبين أو الكعبات ، بنت له هيكلاً في سنداد عرف باسم كعبة شداد ، ولكن حين دخل بنو إياد المنطقة الرومانية مع جبلة بن الأيهم واستوطنوا الشام ، اعتنقوا المسيحية . كذلك فإن إياد الحيرة اعتنقوا المسيحية حين سكنوا في دير الأعور ودير الجماجم ودير قرة وكانت هذه مواطنهم المشهورة ؛ ثم إنهم بعد ذلك اعتنقوا الإسلام ¹ ؛ ومما يدل على أن لقيطاً كان مسيحياً البيت الحادي عشر في قصيدته حيث يعد قبيلته أكثر تديناً من الفرس ، وبما أنه يقول في هذا البيت أن الفرس « لا يشعرون أضر الله أم نفعا ، فهذا يعي بالضرورة أن قبيلته كانت أكثر رعاية لأمر الدين ، وهذا يشير بطريقة غير مباشرة إلى أنه كان مسيحياً .

نسب لقيط وحياته وشعره :

١ مختارات شعراء العرب : ١ ومعجم ما استعجم ١ : ٧٢
 ٢ معجم ما استعجم ١ : ٧٢
 ٣ معجم قيائل العرب ١ : ٢٢
 ٢ معجم ما استعجم ١ : ١٧ ، ٢١ ، ٢٧ والأغاني ٢٠ ، ٣٣ ومعجم قيائل العرب
 ١ : ٢٥
 ٥ معجم ما استعجم ١ : ٢٧

فيورد النسب هكذا ' : لقيط بن معبد بن خارجة بن معبد بن حطيط بن غوثجان بن الهون بن وائلة بن الطمئان بن عود مناة بن يدوم بن أقصى بن زهر بن إياد . وإذا تأملنا هذا النسب وجدنا صدر الدين بن أبي الفرج مخطئاً في قوله إنه لقيط بن حارثة بن معبد الإيادي ٢ . ولا نعرف شيئاً عن أجداد لقيط أو عن مولده أو عن نشأته ، ويقال إنه كان من خير خطباء إياد وشعرائها " كذلك يقال إنه كان مترجماً وكاتباً للمراسلات في الديوان * . وبما أن عدى بن زيد العبادي كان أول كاتب عربي في ديوان كسرى" ، فربما كان لقيط في تلك الوظيفة نفسها في ديوان الاكاسرة في زمن متأخر . وتحدَّثنا الروايات أيضاً أن زيد بن عديَّ خلف أباه في منصبه بعد وفاته في سجن النعمان بن المنذر ملك الحيرة ٦ . ولذا قد نفتر ض أن لقيطاً عين مع زيد بن عدي أو بعد أن تخلى زيد عن منصبه لسبب مجهول . ولكن مي درس لقيط اللغة الفارسية وأين ؟ – إذا كان إتقانها أمراً ضرورياً لكاتب عربيَّ لدى ملك فارسي - فذلك ما لا نعرفه . وليست هناك أخبار أخرى عن حياة لقيط ووظيفته لدى من أوردوا ترجمته إلا قولهم إنه اتمهم بأنه كان يحب زوجة كسرى ، وأن كسرى حين بلغه أن لقيطاً أبلغ قبيلته عن توجه الجيوش الفارسية لغزوهم قطع لسانه ثم قتله .

ولم يتبق من شعر لقيط إلا قصيدة واحدة وبضعة أبيات ؛ يقول أبو الفرج الإصفهاني ، لقيط بن بكر شاعر جاهلي قديم مقلّ ليس يعرف له

شعر غير هذه القصيدة وقطع من الشعر ' ويقول إن لقيطاً خلّف ديواناً ، ولكن الديوان الموجود لدينا اليوم لا يحتوي إلا على قصيدة طويلة وبضعة أبيات من قصيدة أخري ، وقد وقع ديوان لقيط في المكتبة الفيضية (مكتبة فيض الله) في جامعي الفاتح وآصف أفندي تحت رقم ١٦٦٢ (من الورقة ميض الله) في جامعي الفاتح وتصف أوندي تحت رقم ١٦٦٢ (من الورقة ديوان لقيط في فهارس المكتبات التالية :

(١) ديوان لقيط بن يعمر الإيادي ، جمعه أبو المنذر هشام بن محمد
 ابن السائب بن الكلبي (– ٢٠٦) فيض الله برقم : ١٦٦٢ (٤ ورقات) ^٣

(٢) نسخة أخرى منه في آيا صوفيا رقم ٣٩٣٣ (١٠ ورقات) *

(٣) ديوان لقيط بن يعمر ، بمكتبة شستر بيتي دبلن ، رقم ٥٤٧٤ (٩ ورقات) .

٤) قصيدة لقيط بن يعمر الإيادي ، فهرسة أبي بكر محمد بن خير
 ٤) الإشبيلي (ص ٣٩٨) .

أما ديوان لقيط الذي اخترناه للتحقيق فهو النسخة المحفوظة في مكتبة شستر بيتي وقد كتبه بخط نسخي جميل ° ياقوت المستعصمي ` (– ٦٩٨)

- ۱ الأغاني ۲۰ : ۲۳
- Zeitschrift der Deutchen Morgenlandischen Gezelschaft vol. 68. p. 382. ۲ وانظر برو كلمان ، التكملة ١ : ٥٥
- ۳ فهرست معهد المخطوطات العربية ، القاهرة (فهرست المخطوطات المصورة, ۱ : ٤٦٦ /(١٩٥٤) .
 - ٤ المصدر نفسه
- ه ذكر الأستاذ فؤاد سيركين ديواناً بخط ياقوت ولكن نسبه إلى لقيط بن بكير المحاربسي انظر Suppl. Geschichte
 - ۲ انظر عن حياته وآثار، في الموسوعة الإسلامية (ياقوت).

وإنا لندرك أية أهمية بلغتها قصيدة لقيط ، وأي تقدير بليغ استحقته إذا تذكرنا أن ابن الشجري قد جعلها أول قصيدة في مختاراته ، وان الذي توفر على كتابتها كاتب بارع مثل ياقوت المستعصمي ؛ ويقال إن ابن دريد ذكر أنه ليست هناك قصيدة تحذير نظمها العرب خير منها ، كذلك فإن المبرد اقتبس بعض أبياتها في الكامل مثالاً على خير وصف للقائد .

تاريخ نظمها :

نظراً لتضارب الروايات يعسر أن نحدد تاريخ الحادثة التي نظمت فيها القصيدة وأن نعين مكانها ؛ وأقدم مصادرنا عن قصيدة لقيط وهو الشعر والشعراء لابن قتيبة لا يذكر المكان أو اسم اليوم الذي بسببه نظمت القصيدة ؛ وخلاصة ما يقوله إن إياداً هاجمت مناطق أنو شروان واستولت على ثروته وممتلكاته ، فأرسل الملك الفارسي جيشه ضد إياد ، فانكسر في غير التحام واحد ؛ وبعد أن نزلت قبائل إياد في الجزيرة العربية أرسل كسرى جيشاً أكبر فيه ستون ألف محارب فأرسل لقيط وكان يومئذ مقيماً بالحيرة قصيدة يعذار فيها قبيلته من تقدم جيوش الملك الفارسي نحوهم . فاستعدات قبائل إياد للحرب ، وحاربت ببسالة حتى اضطرت الفرس للتقهقر ⁷ .

وفي الأغاني ــ وهو مصدر قديم أيضاً ــ أن إياداً استمرت تهاجم المواطنين الآمنين في نواحي العراق ، وفي إحدى الهجمات سبوا عروساً فارسية نبيلة المحتد ، فهاجمها الفرس المجاورون ولكن إياداً دحرتهم وجمعت من جماجمهم أكواماً في مكان على مقربة من دير سمّي من بعد

Orient and Occident, by Th. Benfey vol. I. Th. Noldeke's Contribution, p. 117.

۲ الشمر والشعراء : ۹۷ – ۹۸

باسم دير الجماجم ، فلما بلغ كسرى أرسل ٤٠٠٠ من فرسانه لمحاربة إياد ، فأرسل لقيط إلى قبيلته يحذرها غزو الفرس في قصيدة إلا أنها أهملت الاستماع لنصحه ، وفاجأها الجيش الفارسي في مكان يدعى مرج الآكام وهزمها في موقعة يوم الفرات ، فهاجرت بعد ذلك إلى نواحي الشام '

وهاتان الروايتان غامضتان متناقضتان في آن معاً . فرواية ابن قتيبة تجعل المعركة التي لا يذكر اسمها ناجمة عن هجمات إياد ، وأن إياداً استعدّت حين حذّرها لقيط ودحرت الجيش الفارسي ، ورواية الاصفهاني تذكر سي إياد للعروس الفارسية سبباً في الحروب ، وتقول إن إياداً أهملت نصيحة لقيط وانها لذلك أخذت على غرة ودحرت . وقد أقر الاصفهاني رواية ً عن الزيادي أن كل ما نقل حول عدي بن زيد والنعمان بن المندر الذي سببت علاقاته السياسية لملوك الفرس تلك الحروب بين إياد والجيوش الفارسية – أقر أنها مليئة بالاضطراب وأنها غير موثوقة وأن لا أهمية كبيرة لما ^٢ . ومع أن رواية ابن قتيبة غامضة فإنها تتفق من وجوه مع ما جاء في العقد الفريد وتاريخ الطبري . وينفرد العقد الفريد بين المصادر القديمة بقوله إن قصيدة لقيط المشهورة نظمت في يوم ذي قار ^٣ ، وقد تقبل المورخون المتأخرون هذه الرواية مثل جاد المولى والبجاوي في كتابهما

ولكن الربط بين قصيدة لقيط ومعركة ذي قار يتطلّب منّا أن نحدّد

١ الأغاني ٢٠ : ٢٣ وانظر أيضاً معجم ما استعجم ١ : ٢٧ -- ٧١
 ٢ الأغاني ٢ : ٣٥
 ٣ العقد ٣ : ٩٧
 ٩ العقد ٣ : ٩٧
 ٩ أيام العرب : ٨ (١٩٤٢) ، وانظر عن معركة ذي قار : الأغاني ٢ : ٢٢ - ٣٥
 والعقد ٣ : ٩٧ ومعجم البلدان ٧ : ٨

التاريخ الذي وقعت فيه ؛ فنجد الأستاذ ليال في تعليقه على البيت ١٦ من قصيدة الأخنس بن شهاب التغلي في المفضليات يقول : « نظراً لعدم وجود ما يدل على التواريخ في هذه الروايات المضطربة فإنه من غير الممكن تحديد العام الذي حدثت فيه تلك المعركة » ` وهناك أخبار مضطربة متناقضة حول تاريخ تلك المعركة والملك الفارسي الذي وقعت في زمنه ؛ فقد جاء في العقد ومختارات ابن الشجري والأعلام للزركلي ومعجم المؤلفين أنها حدثت أيام سابور ذي الأكتاف ٢ الذي نزع أكتاف من بلغوه هزيمة جيشه ؛ أما ابن قتيبة ٣ والآمدي ٤ فيذكران أن أنوشروان هو الذي هاجم قبائل إياد وأن لقيطاً أرسل قصيدته حينئذ . ويقول أبو الفرج في كتاب الأغاني ° أنها كانت في عهد كسرى ، ويقول البكري في معجم ما استعجم ` ان الذي حارب إياداً إما كسرى بن هرمز وإما أنوشروان بن قباذ ؛ ولكن لم يذكر واحد من هذه المصادر متى كانت معركة ذي قار ، مع أنها أشارات إشارات غامضة إلى بعض الحملات التي حدثت في أزمنة قريبة من زمان تلك الحادثة . وقد قرر الطبري جازماً أن معركة ذي قار حدثت في حكم كسرى ابرويز ابن هرمز [×] ، وتعتمد رواية الطبري على المعلومات التاريخية التي جمعها عن مدى حكم كل ملك من ملوك الفرس .

وتدل الدراسة على أن النعمان بن المنذر أبا قابوس الذي كان موته هو السبب الأكبر في موقعة ذي قار ، حكم الحيرة سبع سنوات وثمانية أشهر ، أيام هرمز بن أنو شروان ، وأربع عشرة سنة وأربعة أشهر في عهد كسرى أبرويز بن هر،ز ﴿ ﴾ وبعد وفاة أبي قابوس عين كسرى أبرويز إياس بن قبيصة الطاني حاكماً على الحيرة ، وفي عهده حدثت المعركة ٢ . ومما يؤيد هذه الحقائق ما ذكره الطبري أيضاً حول تاريخ مولد النبي مظلم وبعثه وهجرته ؛ ذلك أن النبي ولد في السنة الثانية والأربعين من حكم كسرى أنو شروان بن قباذ ، أي عام الفيل سنة ٥٧٠ م ولما كان أنو شروان قد تولى العرش سنة ٢٨ ودام حكمه ٢٨ سنة فإن النبي كان في السادسة من عمره حين توفي أنو شروان وخلفه ابنه هرمز (٥٧٦ م) ؟ وقد حكم هرمز ١١ سنة وتسعة أشهر وعشرة أيام ، ومعنى ذلك أن النبي كان في حوالي الثامنة عشرة من العمر عندما تولى العرش كسرى أبرويز (٨٨٥ م) ؛ وبعث نبياً في السنة العشرين من حكم كسرى أبرويز ، وهذا يؤيد ما قاله المؤرخون الآخرون من أنه بعث وعمرُه أربعون سنة ﴿ أَي سَنَّة ٦١٠) . ويقول الطبري أيضاً " إنه بعد مرور اثنتين وثلاثين سنة وخمسة أشهر و ١٥ يوماً من تتويج أبرويز هاجر النبي مُلْكِنُم إلى المدينة ، وهذا ما قدَّره المُوْرخون الآخرون أي عام ٦٢٢ تاريخاً للهجرة . وإذن فإن معركة ذي قار حدثت بعد وقت قصير من بعثة الرسول ، وبما أن إياس بن قبيصة ولي حاكمًا

- ۱ الطبري ۱ : ۱۰۱۲
- ۲ الطبري ۱ : ۱۰۱۵ -- ۱۰۱۲ ، ۱۰۳۱ ، ۱۰۳۸
- ۳ المصدر نفسه : وهذه التواريخ يمكن أن تقارن بما ذكره السير برسي سايكس في كتاب تاريخ فارس History of Persia (١ : ٤٤٩ -- ٤٨٦) فقد ذكر هناك أن أنو شروان تول الملك سنة ٣١٥ وكانت حملته ضد الأحباش سنة ٧٦٥ وكانت تولية كسرى أبرويز سنة ٩٩٥ ، ومعركة ذي قار سنة ٦١٠ وتنحية كسرى أبرويز وموته سنة ٦٢٨ .

على الحيرة سنة ٢٠٢ ودام في الحكم تسع سنوات ، فمعى ذلك أن حكمه انتهى سنة ٦١١ وهذا يجعل تاريخ المعركة بين سنتي ٦١٠ ، ٦١١ وهو التاريخ الذي بعث فيه الرسول علي ؛ ومن ئم قال المورخون مثل الطبري ^١ وغير المورخين مثل ابن عبد ربه ٢ وياقوت الحموي ٣ وابن سعد المحدث ^٤ إنه عندما وصل نبأ هزيمة الجيش الفارسي في ذي قار إلى الرسول علي قال : « هذا أول يوم انتصفت فيه العرب من العجم وبي نصروا » وفي رواية : يورده فهو يقول حيناً : وكانت وقعة ذي قار المشهورة في التاريخ يوم منصرف الذي علي من وقعة بلىر الكبرى ، ولكن الطبري وابن عبد ربه منصرف الذي علي من وقعة بلىر الكبرى ، ولكن الطبري وابن عبد ربه منصرف الذي علي أنها حدثت بعد البعثة ، والرواية الأولى التي قام عند منصرف الذي علي أنها حدثت علم العجم » . وغير دد ياقوت الحموي في ما ولادة رسول الله علي ويقول أيضاً : وقيل كانت وقعة ذي قار عند منصرف الذي علي أنها حدثت بعد البعثة ، والرواية الأولى التي نقلناها عن ياقوت منفقان على أنها حدثت بعد البعثة ، والرواية الأولى التي نقلناها عن ياقوت واهية ، لأن الذي ولد في عهد أنو شروان ، والرواية الثانية خاطئة كذلك لأن إياس بن قبيصة لم يتجاوز عام ٦٦١ بينما حدثت بلر سنة ٢٢٤ .

وقد توصل المورخون المحدثون إلى مثل هذه النتيجة ، فعندما تحدث السير برسي سايكس عن معركة ذي قار قال : ﴿ في هذه الفترة بين ٢٠٤ ، ٦١٠ حسبما يقول نولدكه ، وفي سنة ٦١١ كما يقول موير ، حدثت معركة صغيرة لم تلفت الانتباه في حينها ولكنها من بعد أصبحت حدثاً يحمل نتائج بالغة الخطورة ، ثم يقص قصة معركة ذي قار التي قال فيها الطبري : وهي أول يوم انتصف فيه العرب من العجم ، ويضيف سايكس قائلاً : لو لم يحرز العرب فيها النصر الكانت الصعوبات التي واجهتها الجيوش

- الطبري 1 : ١٠١٥
 - ۲ المقد ۳ : ۹۰
- ۳ معجم البلدان ۷ : ۸
- ٤ طبقات ابن سعد (ط. سخلو) ٧ : ٤٥

الإسلامية الفاتحة من بعد أشد ّ » ^١ !

هل أرسل لقيط قصيدته التحذيرية إلى قومه إباد في يوم ذي قار ؟ لا يذكر ابن قتيبة والآمدي وابن الشجري اسم اليوم ، بينما يقول أبو الفرج إنه نظمها في يوم الفرات ، كما أن البكري يقول إنه أرسلها في حادثة يوم الجماجم ، ويقرن ابن عبد ربه وحده هذه القصيدة بيوم ذي قار . وإذا شئنا تحديد اليوم فلا بد من تفحص الأبيات على ضوء الشواهد الخارجية والداخلية . وأول الشواهد الخارجية أن نسأل : ما هي القبائل التي وقفت في الحرب ضد الفرس وأين وقعت المعركة والأسباب التي أدّت إليها وأن نحاول ربط ذلك بالزمان والمكان اللذين عاش فيهما الشاعر .

أما القبائل التي وقفت ضد الفرس في تلك المعركة فهي بكر بن وائل وبنو عجل وبنو يشكر وبنو شيبان ؛ وكانت إياد في جيش إياس بن قبيصة أي موالية للفرس ؛ ولكن إيادا راسلت قبائل بكر سراً تسألها في أي جانب تقف ، فكان أن نصحت إياد بأن تظل ظاهرياً مع إياس بن قبيصة حتى إذا نشبت المعركة انحازت إلى جانب بكر ؛ وأما موقع المعركة فهو مكان كانت تتخذه قبائل بكر مصيفاً لها في الجزيرة العراقية ؛ وأما الأسباب التي أدت إلى المعركة فهي مقتل النعمان بن المنذر وغضب كسرى على القبائل المذكورة التي أجارته .

ونحن نعلم أن زيد بن عديّ العبادي كان كاتباً عند كسرى أبرويز وأنه تولى بعد وفاة أبيه سنة ٩٨٧ وأن لقيط بن يعمر كان أيضاً كاتباً عند كسرى أبرويز إما مقارناً لزيد وإما خلفاً له ؛ وبين هذا التاريخ ومعركة ذي قار ٢٣ سنة ، قتل في أثنائها النعمان بن المنذر ، وكانت فترة هامة ثورية في تاريخ العرب ، فإن مقتل النعمان لم يوقظ الروح القومية لدى العرب

History of Persia, vol. 1 p. 481.)

وحسب بل وحدهم لأول مرة في حرب ضد دولة قوية .

وبعد أن حددنا عصر لقيط وتاريخ الحادئة ومكانها دعنا نتفحص الشواهد الداخلية في قصيدة لقيط نفسها ؛ يبدو من النظرة الأولى أن الشاعر وجه قصيدته إلى قبائل إياد التي كانت تقطن الجزيرة حيث وقعت معركة ذي قار ، وكان خذلان إياد للجيش الفارسي ذا دور كبير في الهزيمة التي حلت به ؛ وقد كان حديث الشاعر موجهاً إلى روَّساء القبائل الذين كانوا منقسمين في الرأي قبل حدوث المعركة (البيت : ٨) ولهذا يقول الشاعر إن فريقاً يعد نفسه ضعيفاً عاجزاً عن القتال وفريقاً يخاف سطوة الفرس وهذا القول الثاني يتفق مع ما قاله هانىء بن قبيصة حين زعم أنه وقومه يجب أن يذهبوا في الصحراء لأنه ليس لديهم قوة يواجهون بها الجيوش الفارسية اللجبة ؛ كذلك فإن بني حنيفة لم يحضروا الاجتماع ، ولم يكن في المجتمعين من يؤيد الحرب إلا سيار العجلي ' . وفي هذه اللحظة الحرجة أرسل الشاعر إليهم يحذرهم غزو الجيش الفارسيَّ الكبير (٦ آلاف) ويقنعهم بالاتحاد والتكاتف ، وأن يستعدوا للحرب ويتخلوا عن حرث الأرض واستنتاج المواشي (البيت ١١ – ١٧ من العينية والبيتان ٢ ، ٣ من الدالية) ، ويحضهم على ألا يأمِنوا كسرى على النساء بل عليهم حمايتهن ، وهذا هو السبب الذي جرَّ إلى مقتل النعمان ، أعني أن كسرى حاول أن يتخذ لنفسه نساء من العرب فأبى النعمان ذلك . كذلك فإن الأمكنة المذكورة في القصيدة هي تلك الأمكنة التي تحف بذي قار (وهي الجزيرة ، ذات الجزع ، بيشة ، مُهلان … الخ) وكلها تقع في الجزيرة العراقية .

وعلى أساس هذه الشواهد يمكننا القول إن قصيدة لقيط نظمت قبل يوم ذي قار ، كما ذكر ابن عبدربه .

۱ المقد ۳ : ۹۰

نظرة في شعر لقيط :

بقي من شعره مقطوعة وقصيدة ، ويبدو أنهما بقية من ديوان . المقطوعة الدالية في ٤ أبيات والقصيدة العينية بقي منها خمسة وخمسون بيتاً ؛ وقد أورد ابن قتيبة الدالية كلزا و ٩ أبيات من العينية ومثل ذلك فعل الإصفهاني والآمدي والبكري وابن عبد ربه ، أما ابن الشجري وعنه ينقل صاحب رغبة الآمل فإنه أورد ٥٥ بيتاً في العينية بينما لا يحوي الديوان الذي نشره نولدكه منها إلا ٥٢ بيتاً والأربعة الدالية ؛ أما الديوان الذي وصلنا بخط ياقوت المستعصمي فيحوي الدالية و ٤٢ بيتاً من العينية .

وإذا قارنا الديوان الذي نشره نولدكه بالديوان المكتوب بخط ياقوت وجلنا أن نسخة ياقوت أكثر أصالة وصواباً ؛ وقد اعتمد نولدكه على ثلاث نسخ برلينية برقم ١١٧٦ ، ١١٨٠ ، ١٢٣ كتبت جميعاً في القرن إلسابع الهجري ، برواية هشام بن الكلبي . ويبدو أنها تشبه النسختين المحفوظتين في استانبول تحت رقم ١٦٦٢ فيض الله ، ٣٩٣٣ آيا صوفيا . ومقلمة الديوان الذي نشره نولدكه تحتوي أخباراً مشابهة لما ذكره ابن قتيبة عن إياد ولقيط وقصيدته ؛ غير أن البكري يقرر أن لقيطاً كان كاتباً في ديوان كسرى فأخبر قبيلته باستعداد الجيش الفارسي لغزوها لكن طبعة نولدكه لا تذكر سوى أن لقيطاً كان يقطن الحيرة ، وعندما علم بزحف الفرس أرسل إلى قبيلته يحذرها . وقد وردت في نسخة ياقوت إشارة إلى هذه الحادثة أيضاً ، وهي نسخة لم يعتمدها نولدكه . كذلك فإن هذه النسخة تخلو من أيضاً ، وهي نسخة لم يعتمدها نولدكه . كذلك فإن هذه النسخة تخلو من عند نولدكه كان البيت ٢ عند ياقوت إشارة إلى هذه الحادثة

ويتفق الشرح في النسختين ، إلا أن بعض الشروح في نسخة ياقوت لم ترد عند نولدكه والعكس بالعكس ؛ وفي الأبيات نفسها خلافات في الرواية ،

وهذا يتبين من الجدول الآتي : نشرة نولدكه نسخة ياقوت البيت اتىعا البيعا ۲ سقط البيت وشرحه ٤ أرى بعيبى **ا**ني بعيني ٥ مر تبعا من تبعا ٥ إلا أن يستملكوكم فلا يبقوا منكم ١٦ (شرح) إلا أن يستأصلكم أحدآ معتمد معتمل 17 تفطم أولادها تعظم أولادها ۱۸ صعقا صقعا 19 ومر من دار کنعا ۲۳ (والشرح) وهو من ذا کنع سقط الست وشرحه 19 سقط البيت وشرحه ٣٤ أزمع عليه ۲۹ (والشرح) زمع عليه وقد توقف كاسكل متبعاً خطى نولدكه ' عن البيت ٢٦ فزعم أنه صورة أخرى من البيت : ٣٧ وهذا غير صحيح ، لأن الشاعر في البيت الأول ينصح قبيلته أن تضحي بكل عزيز لديها كي تحمي شرفها وشرف نسائها . أما في البيت ٣٧ فإنه يركز القول حول حماية شرف النساء من

- کسری وجیشه .
- ١ أشكر الأستاذ روزنتال لأنه ترجم لي بعض ما ورد في اللغتين الألمانية والفرنسية عند كل من نولدكه وكاسكل .

وكذلك يمكن أن يقال حول نقد نولدكه للبيتين ١١ ، ٣٥ في أنهما يحويان مفهومات إسلامية وأنهما إضافة متأخرة ؛ ومثل هذا النقد نتج عن سوء التفسير والفهم للموقف الحقيقي . ففي البيت ١١ يذكر الشاعر قومه أن الفرس غير متدينين . فهم أشرار لأنهم لا دين لهم ، وفي البيت ٣٥ ينصح الشاعر قومه ألا ينغمسوا في مغريات الحياة . وهاتان الفكرتان إسلاميتان وهما في الوقت نفسه مسيحيتان . ونحن نعلم أن لقيطاً وقبيلته كانوا نصارى وأن الفرس كانوا زرادشتيين . ولهذا فإن الفكرتين تتفقان مع المعتقد الديني لدى الشاعر . ولكن نولدكه لم يستطع أن يرى لقيطاً ضمن هذا الإطار الصحيح وذلك بسبب الاضطراب والتعارض في القصص التي نسجت حوله . فيما يلي صورة لمخطوطة ديوان لقيط بن يعمر المحفوظة بمكتبة (شستر بيتي ــ دبلن) رقم ٥٤٧٤

言い

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بب الدارجم الرحيم وبه الثقة لقيط بن يَعمر [هذه القصيدة من خطوط ياقوت المستعصمي] ... بعد ذلك ستين أَلفاً وكان لقيط بنُ يَعْمُر الإياديُّ ينزل الحِيرةَ فَبَلَغ الخبرُ لقيطاً فكتب إلى إياد وهم بالجزيرة . [الوافر] سلامٌ في الصَّحيفَةِ من لقيط إِلى من بِالجَزِيرَةِ مِنْ إِيادِ رمز مخطوطة ياقوت ، يا . رمز طبع نولدك ، نو ، رمز الأغاني ، غ ، رمز مختارات. شعراء العرب ، خ ، رمز رغبة الآمل ، ر ، رمز الحماسة البصرية ، بّ ، رمز معجم ما استعجم ، جم ، رمز كتاب الشعر والشعراء ، ش . ۱ قبلهم في نو « فوجه إليهم كسرى ... ۲ زيد في نو «فقال » . ٣ في غ ج ٢٠ ص ٢٤ كتابٌ وكذا في ر والاشتقاق لابن دريد ص ١٦٨ . ٤ في جم «على».

فلما وَرَدتِ الخيلَ كَتَبَ لَقيطَ إِلَى إِياد (وهُم بِالجَزيرَةِ) هذه القصيدة يُحَدِّرُهُم ويُحَرِّضُهم على الاستعداد للمحاربة ويَصِفُ لَهم الخيلَ :

يُريدُ يا دارَ عَمرَةَ مِنْ هٰذا الموضع الذي احتلت الجَرَعَ منه ، والجَرَعُ مفعولٌ به وهو رَملٌ يرتفع وَسَطُهُ ويكثرُ وتَرِقٌ نَواحِيهِ فَتُعْشِبُ وَيَحلُّها الناس . جَرَعٌ وجَرَعَةٌ وجَرْعاءُ وأَجرَعُ .

٢ تامتْ فؤادي بِذاتِ الجِزْعِ خَرْعَبَةُ مَرَّتْ تُرِيدُ بِذاتِ العَذْبَةِ البِيَعَا[ِ]

تامَتْ ضَلَّلَتْ وذَهَبَتْ بِهِ وتَيمتْ مِثْله . وقال غيره : تامَتْ أَي استَعْبَدَتْ، والجِزْعُ مُنْثَنَى الوادِي، وخَرَعَبةٌ : إمرأَةٌ حَدَثَةٌ غَضة .

> ٣ جَرَّتْ لِما بَيْنَنَا حَبْلَ الشُّموسِ فلا يأْساً مُبِيناً تَرَى مِنْها ولا طَمَعا

الشَّمُوسُ : الدابةُ الْمُتَنعةُ فلا تُمكِنُ مِنَ الإِسراجِ والإِلجامِ . وهذا مَثَلٌ ، يَقولُ : لا تَسْتَقِرُ عَلَى حالٍ فلا اليأُسُ يُرَى مِنها ولا الطَمَعُ .

- ٤ فمــا أَزالُ عَلَى شَحْط يؤرِّقُني طَيْفٌ تَعمَّدَ رَحْلِي حَيْثُما وُضِعا
- ١ كذا في خ ، وفي تهذيب الألفاظ لابن السكيت ص ٣١٥ وفي نو « اتبعا » وزيد
 في خ ،ر بعد هذا البيت بيتان لا وجود لهما في دواوين الشاعر --- انظر الملحقات .
 ٢ في نو « نرى » وفي خ ص ١ رغبة الآمل « أرى » ، كذا في ر، ج ٥ ص ٩٩ .

٥ في ب ، ج ١ ص ٨٩ « المسري » . ٦ في خ ، ر ٦ ج ٥ ص ٩٩ « مطيته » . ٧ في خ ، ص ١ ، ر ، ج ٥ ص ٩٩ « إلى » .

الدبا : صِغار الجراد والواحدة دَباة ، شَبَّهُهُم بها في سُرْعَتِهِمْ . ١١ أَبِناءُ قَوْمٍ تَـأَوَّوْكُمْ لَ عَلَى حَنَقٍ لا يَشْعُرُونَ أَضَرَّ اللهُ أَمْ نَفَعَا تَأْوُوكُم : من أَوَيْتُ إِلَى الرَجُلِ ، أَي أَوَوْا إِلَيْكُم ، على حَنَق : على غيظ وغضب ، يُقالُ : حَنَقَ عَلَيْهِ بَحْنُقُ حَنَّقاً . لا يشعرون نَفعاً ولا ضَرًّا : يُحَدِّرهُم إياهُم أَنه لا دِينَ لَهُم ، لا يشعُرونَ : لا يعلَمُونَ . أحرارُ فارِسَ أَبِناءُ الْلُوك لَهُم 17 مِنَ الجُموع جُمُوعٌ تَزْدَهي القَلَعا تَزْدَهِي : تَسْتَخِفُ ، والقَلَعُ : الصُخُور العِظامُ ، والواحدة قلعة وهي السحابُ أَيضاً . فَهُمْ سِراعٌ إِلَيْكُمْ بِين مُلتَقطِ ۱۳ شَوكاً و آخَرَ يَجْنى الصابَ والسَلَعا ۖ شَوكاً : يُريدُ سِلاحاً حَديدًا . والصابُ لَبَنُ العُشَر وهو سمٌّ ، والسلَعُ : نَبْتُ بِالحجاز خَبِيتُ الطعْمِ لا يُرْعَى ، ويَجْتَني الصابَ : يُعِدُّ لَكُمُ الشر . فَضَرَبَهُ مَثَلاً لِشِدةِ أَثرهم . ۱ فی جم ۷۳/۱ ور ۹۹/۵ « تایوکم **۱** .

۱ في جم ۷۳/۱ ور ۹۹/۹ «تايوكم » . ۲ كذا في خ . ص ۱ ،ر ۹۹/۹ وش ، ص ۹۸ لكنه غير موجود في نو . ۳ كذا في نو، ش ، ص ۹۸ .

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مُكْتَنِعٌ : أَي مُخْتَشِعُ ذَلِيلٌ ، غُمَّةٌ : غَمَّ ، وأَهلُ المدينَةِ يُسَمُّونَ الْمجَلَّلَ مَغْمُوماً وهو من ذا °، كَنَعَ : خَشَعَ وانقَبَضَ .

يقول : لا يُسْلمَنَّ بَعْضُكُم بَعْضاً لِنائِبَةٍ تَنْزِلُ . وأَعْلى بيشَةٍ : موضع .

- ه في غ ٢٤/٢٠ « زين الفتى حين » وفي خ ٢ ، ر ١٠١/٥ « عمرو القنا » ولم نعثر على أخبارهما . • في غ ٢٤/٢٠ « فقال له » يكذا في عصر ٣٤ دما مناطقة Browag Brownia ust I
 - Freytag, Proverbia, vol. I,p. 476. فقال له » وكذا في Freytag, Proverbia, vol. I,p. 476.
 ٧ غير موجود في نو .

* * *

١ في خ ٢ ، ره/١٠١ ، غ ٢٤/٢٠ «فناورو»» .
٢ في ع ٢٤/٢٠ «يحتتل» .
٣ في ع ٢٤/٢٠ «يحتتل» .
٣ في خ /٢ ، ر ه/١٠١ مكانه «في الحرب لا عاجزاً نكساً ولا ورعا» .
٤ هذا المصراع غير موجود في خ ، ر .
٥ في نو «وَرِعا» .
٢ كذا في جم ٢٣/١ ، غ ٢٤/٢٠ هكذا : «لو صارَعُوهُ جَمِيعاً في الوغى صرعا »
٧ في جم ٢٣/١ ، غ ٢٤/٢٠ هكذا : «لو صارَعُوهُ جَمِيعاً في الوغى صرعا »
٧ في جم ٢٣/١ ، غ ٢٤/٢٠ هكذا : «لو صارَعُوهُ جَمِيعاً في الوغى صرعا »
٧ في نو شرحه هكذا : – يقول هو ذو نجدة يتحدى يبارز ويدعو ، يقال فلان يتحدى في العلم وغيره، قارع من المقارعة » .

ــ في آخر الديوان بخط مختلف ــ عدد الديوان اثنا عشر [كذا] ورقة ،وهو بخط ياقوتالمستعصمي بغير شبهة ولا شكُ ، كَتَبَهُ أَحمد بن السويد الصوفي المعروفي البغدادي

* * *

الملحقسات

١ – زِيد بعد قافية «البيعا » في خ / ١ ، ر ٥ / ٩٩ . بِمُقْلَتَىْ خاذل أَدْماءَ طاعَ لَهـا نَبِتُ الرِّياضِ تُزَجِّي وسطَهُ ذَرَعا ووَاضِح أَشْنَب الأَنْيَابِ ذِي أُشُرِ كالأقْحُوان إِذا ما نورُه لَمَعَا ۲ – زید بعد قافیة «اجتمعا » في خ/۱ ، ر ٥ / ۹۹ . إِنِي أَراكم وأَرْضاً تعجبون بِها مثلَ السفينة ِ تغشى الوعثَ والطبَعا ٣ – زِيد بعد قافية «هجعا» في نو ص ٦١١ وفي خ/٢، ر ٩٩/٥. خُزْرًا عُيونُهُمُ كَأَنَّ لَحْظَهُمُ حَرِيقُ نارٍ ترى مِنه السَّنا قِطعا في ر ٥٩/٩ وفي خ / ٢ خزرٌ مكان خزرًا، وفي نو، شرحه هكذا : خزرًا جمع أخزر ، وهو الذي ينظر بمؤخر عينيه ، السنا : الضوءُ مقصور .

٤ _ زيد بعد قافية «الربعا » في نو/ 712 ، خ / ٢ ، ر ٥ / ٩٩ وفي ب ۹۰/۱ ب وتلْبَسُونَ ثِيابَ الأَمْن ضاحِيَةً لا تَجْمَعونَ وهٰذا الليث قد جَمَعا وشرحه في نو : الليث يعنى به الرئيس كسرى . ٥ – زيد بعد قافية «كنعا» في خ / ٢ و ر ٥/١٠٠ . يَسْعَى ويَحْسَبُ أَنَّ المالَ مُخْلِدُهُ إِذَا استفاد طريفاً زادَهُ طَمَعًا فاقنوا جيادكمُ واحموا ذمارَكمُ واستشعروا الصَّبْر لاتستشعروا الجَزَعا ٦ - وزيد بعد قافية «رُجُعا» في نو وبعد قافية «هَلَعا» في خ/٢. ر / ۱۰۰۵ ما يليه : فإِن غُلِبْتُمْ عَلى ضِنٍّ بِدارِكُمُ فَقَدْ لَقِيتُم بِأَمر حازِم فَزَعا وفي نو ، شرحه كما يأْتي : يقول جاءَكم الفزع وقد أَخذتم بأُمر الحزم، يقول : خذوا بالحزم واخرجوا على ضنٍّ بداركم فإن أَصَبْتُمْ

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٧ - وزيد بعده أبيات في نو ، خ / ۲ ، ر ه/١٠٠ .
٧ تُلْهِكُمْ إبلُ ليست لكم إبلُ
٧ تُلْهِكُمْ إبلُ ليست لكم إبلُ
٧ تُشْمِروا المالَ لِلْأَعْداء إِنَّهُمُ
٧ تُشْمِروا المالَ لِلْأَعْداء إِنَّهُمُ
٨ مَنْهُمُ
٩ مَنْ ذَرْعٍ ولا إبل
٨ مَنْهاتَ لا مالَ مِنْ زَرْعٍ ولا إبل
٩ والله ما انفكَّت الأموالُ مذ أبد آ
٩ والله ما انفكَّت الأموالُ مذ أبد آ

١ في نو «إن يتظفرُوا ، وفيه شرحه هكذا : – لا تثمروا يقول لا تكثروا وأراد يعتوون عليكم والتلاد المال القديم .
 ٢ في نو « لغائركم » .
 ٣ في نو « مذ أبداً » ، وفيه شرحه هكذا : – ما انفكت أي ما زالت، ومذ ترفع ما بعدها ومُنْذ تجر .

DIWAN LAQIT IBN YA'MUR

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A CRITICAL EDITION OF DIWAN OF LAQIT IBN YA'MUR

With an Introduction, annotation and translation into English

by

M. A. Mu'id Khan Visiting Professor University of Cambridge

1391 - 1971

то

THE MEMORY

OF

MY MOTHER

Laqit-ibn-Ya'mur

A little known Poet of Pre-Islamic Arabia

The first nationalist Poet of Pre-Islamic Arabia

Although Laqit is ranked among the top-most poets of Pre-Islamic Arabia, yet his life and work have been badly neglected by his biographers. He seems to have flourished at a very crucial period of Arab history, when the Arab tribes of al-Hira (Mesopotamia) for the first time united and revolted against the imperialism of the Persian rule, and in this national awakening Laqit had been instrumental. In his famous odes he has succeeded in persuading his tribes of Iyad to gather strength and fight against the advancing army of Persia in order to throw away the yoke of its bondage. It is for this historical importance, that Laqit deserves rather detailed study of his life, time and works. But to our great dismay there are contradictory and controversial reports about his name, his tribe, his life, and the occasion on which he composed his famous odes. An attempt is therefore made below to clarify the controversies, to determine his age, and to draw a succinct picture of Laqit's life and works in their proper perspective.

The Poet's Name

Ibn 'Abd Rabbihi (d. 327. H)^I and al-Mubarrid² (d. 385) describe him Laqīț-al-Iyādī while Ibn Duraid³ (d. 322. H/ 934 A.D.) al-Jāḥiz⁴ (d. 255. H) and al-'Āmidī⁵ (d. 370. H) give his name as Laqīț-b-Ma'bad2. But Ibn Shajari⁶ (d. 542. H) 1147 A.D., al-Bakri⁷ (d. 487. H) and Yāqūt-al-Hamawī⁸ (d. 626/1229) mention him as Laqīț-b-Y'amur while Ibn Qutaiba⁹ (d. 276. H) and Ibn Manzūr¹⁰ (d. 711.H/ 1311 A.D.) author of *Lisan-al-Arab* style him Laqīț-b-Ma'mar. Abul Faraj-al-Isfahāni (d. 356. H) is unique in recording his name as Laqīt-b-Bakr¹¹. The later biographers like Al-Ziriklī¹², al-Mursafī¹³, and Riḍa-Kaḥḥāla¹⁴ have preferred Laqīț-b-Ya'mur on the authority of Ibn Shajari which may be accepted, as it is found in his *Diwān* itself.

- 1. 'Iqd'l Farid Vol. III, p. 97.
- 2. Raghbatul 'Āmil, Vol. V. p. 98 100.
- 3. al-Ishtiqāq, p. 168.
- 4. A verse quoted by al-Jāhiz also contains Laqīţ-b-Ma'bad but it can be replaced by Laqīţ-b-Ya'mur or Ma'mar without damaging the metre, if it is taken to be a mistake of the original scribe or editor of the book (see Al-Bāyan Wal Tabyīn ed. H. Sandūbi 1947, Vol. I, pp. 57, 69.
- 5. Mu'jam al-Shu'ara ed. Krenkow, p. 125.
- 6. Diwān Mukhtārāt, Shu'ārā'l Arab, p. 1.
- 7. Mu'jam ma Ista'jam, Vol. I, p. 72.
- 8. Mu'jam al-Buldān ed. Khangi, Vol. 5, p. 114.
- 9. K. al-Shi'r wal Shu'ara, ed. De Goeje, pp. 97 98.
- 10. See Lisān, «Iyād».
- 11. Al-Aghāni, ed. Bulāq Vol. II, p. 23.
- 12. Al-A'lām Vol. VI, p. 109
- 13. Raghbatul 'Amil, Vol. Vol. V, pp. 98 100.
- 14. Mu'jam al-Mu'allifin, Vol. III, p. 157.

The Poet's Tribe

Except Yaqut al-Hamawi who has ascribed him to the tribe of Azd,¹ all his biographers state that Laqit-b-Y'amur belongs to the tribe of Iyad which is one of the four branches of Nizār-b-Ma'd-b-'Adnān. According to the Arab geneology, Rabi'a, Mudar, Anmar and Iyad are said to have been four sons of Nizār who had settled down in Tehāma² and among them the tribe of Ivad was most respected and held a high position. But they had to leave their original settlements and migrate to different parts of the Arabian peninsula for which various causes have been given. They are said to have left Tehāma, due to acute drought, and to have settled down in the suburbs of Iraq in the area lying between Bahrain and Sandad and Khawarneq. Their numbers began to spread very rapidly along the banks of the Euphrates and reached to the borders of the Arabian Peninsula. Then they began to raid the peaceful citizens of Iraq. Their raids culminated in the capture of a high-born Persian bride, who was being escorted to her husband. This provoked the Persian king to send against them a large force of Persian Cavalry. This force was attacked by Iyad and completly annihilated, and its skulls, which were piled up there, gave its name to the place of the monastery called Dayr Jamājim.³ The then Kisra or Persian king of those days sent a still larger army which finally broke their power. The remnants settled down, some of them in Roman territory

^{1.} Mu'jam-al-Buldān, ed. Khāngi, Vol. V, p. 114.

^{2.} Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam, Vol. I, pp. 67 - 71.

^{3.} See Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam Vol. I, pp. 67 - 72. al-Aghāni Vol. XX, p. 23.

on the Upper Euphrates, and some attached themselves to the kings of al-Hīra while some were dispersed in various parts of the Arabian Peninsula.

Another version is that Iyad left Tehama their native country and settled down in the suburbs of Mesopotamia when they were defeated in the civil war which broke out among their sister tribes of Mudar and Rabi'a. But soon after their abduction of the above mentioned Persian bride they were banished from the whole of Iraq by the Persian armies,¹ and in Mu'jam Qabāil'l 'Arab² it is mentioned on the authority of Tarikh Tabari and Tabagat-ibn-Sa'd that in the beginning of the third century of the Christian era, when the tribe of Mudar took control of the sacred precincts of the Kaba, the Iyad were compelled to migrate towards Mesopotamia. Thus, the Iyad left their country and settled down in the suburbs of Kūfa. When they were afflicted with severe famine, they were divided into three sections, one of which went towards the sea and was destroyed ; the other went towards Yaman and the third went towards the lands of Bakr-b-Wā'il. They were dispersed between Sandad and Kazima and remained there, raiding and harrying the cultivators of the settled lands in Mesopotamia until they were driven away by the Persian armies. After their abduction of a Persian bride, they migrated to the suburb of Syria.

- Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam Vol. I, pp. 67 72; al-Aghāni Vol. XX, p. 23 Kitāb-al-Shi'r Wa Shu'ara ed. De Goege, pp. 97 - 98.
- 2. Mu'jam Qabāil'l 'Arab Vol. I, p. 52, and also See K. al-Muntaqā by al-Fakehi, ed. Wustenfeld, 1859, Vol. II, p. 137.

This exile of the Iyād might have taken place long before Laqīt's time as in two of his verses (No. 16 and 17) he has described the Iyād ironically as those who are engaged in tilling the soil and breeding livestock while plans are being made to destroy them by the Persian armies. This is further proved by the fact that many members of the tribe of Iyad had no longer remained nomadic, but they appear to have developed the characteristics of civilized people, and had made a name in scholarship, horsemanship, official correspondendence and administration as secretaries. Al-Jāḥiz mentions a number of orators whom the tribe of Iyād had produced. In support of his statement al-Jāḥiz has quoted the followingverse of al-Ashall'l Azraqī al Bakrī :

كَقسَّ إِيادٍ أَو لَقيط بن مَعبدٍ وعذرة والمنطيق زيد بن جُندب

(Orators) like Quss of Iyad and Laqit-b-Ma^cbad and 'Udhra and Zaid-b-Jundub.¹

Besides orators the Iyād tribe has also produced eminent poets such as Abu Duad-b-Jarīr al-Iyādi who was master of al-Mundhir III's stud² and Laqīt-b-Ya⁴mur who who one of the secretaries in the Persian kings' Department of Official Correspondence.³ The scions of this tribe of Iyād

- I. Al-Bayān Wal Tabyīn ed. Sandubi, III edition 1947. Vol. I, pp. 57 69.
- 2. Mufaddaliyāt ed. by C.J. Lyall, Vol. II, 1918, pp. 152 153.
- 3. Mukhtārāt Shuʿarā'l ʿArab by Ibn Shajarī p. 1 and Muʿjam Ma Istaʿjam Vol. I, p. 72.

are also said to have been excellent archers¹ and the best scribes from whom the Arabs are said to have learnt the art of writing.²

The Religion of the Iyad

As regards the Iyād's religion, they are described originally as idolators who worshipped an idol called Dhul K'abain or al-Ka'bāt for which they had built a temple in Sandād which was known as Ka'bat Shaddād. But when they entered Roman territory along with Jabla-b-Al-Ayham and settled in Syria they embraced Christianity. The Iyād of of al-Hīra also seem to have turned Christians when they lived in Dayr al-A'Wer, Dayr al-Jamājim and Dayr Qurra which are their famous places and finally they are said to have embraced Islām.³ However, Laqīt's being Christian is proved from his verse (No. 10) in which he considers his tribe more religious than the Persians. As Laqīt in this verse describes the Persians as those who have no regard for religion, it implies that his tribe was a more religious community and it indirectly reflects on his being Christian.

Laqit's geneology, his life and work

Among his early biographers, al-Bakrī has given some names of Laqīț's forefathers. According to al-Bakrī the table of Laqīț's geneology is as follows :4

- 1. Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam Vol. I, p. 72.
- 2. Mu'jam Qabāil-al-'Arab Vol. I, p. 52.
- 3. See Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam Vol. I, pp. 67, 71, 72 and al-Aghāni, Vol. XX, p. 23; Mu'jam Qabail-al-'Arab Vol. I, p. 52.
- 4. Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam Vol. I, p. 72.

'Aubethān al Iyādī Khārija Ya'mur Laqīț

But Hishām-b-Muḥammad al-Kalbī (d. 206. H/821 A.D.) has given it in some more detail. It is as follows¹:

ı.	Iyād	8.	al-Haun
2.	Zuhr		Ghauthjān
3.	Afsa	-	Huțaiț
4.	Yadūm		Mabad
5.	'Audemanāt	12.	Khārija
6.	al-Țamathān	13.	Mabad
7.	Waila	14.	Laqit
		-	-

In view the above facts it is obvious that Sadruddin-b-Abi'l Faraj has made a mistake in quoting Laqīt as Laqīt-b-Haritha-b-Ma'bad al-Iyadi.² However, nothing is known about Laqīt's ancestors, his birth and his early life. He is reported to have been one of the best orators and poets of the tribe of Iyād.³ He is also said to have acquired a high post as Arabic interpreter and secretary for Arabic Correspondence in the Diwān (Chancery of the Persian Emperors).⁴ As 'Adi-b-Zaid al-Ibādi is mentioned as having been the first

- 2. Hamāsat-al-Başriya ed. by Mukhtāruddin, Vol. I, p. 89.
- 3. See al-Bayān Wal Tabyīn Vol. I, pp. 57, 69.
- 4. Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam Vol.I, p.72 and Mukhtārāt by Ibn al-Shajari p.1.

^{1.} *Jamharat al Ansāb* by Hishām ibn Mohd. al-Kalbi ed. W. Caskel, Brill, Leiden. See Vol. I, Table «Iyād».

Arab Secretary in the Diwan of Kisra, Laqit might have naturally been appointed as -Arab Secretary in the Chancery of Kisra at a much later date. History also records that Zaid son of 'Adi was appointed in his father's place after his father's death² in the prison of al-Nu^cman-b-al-Mun--dhir, the King of al-Hira. It may therefore be presumed that Laqit might have been appointed either along with Zaid-b-'Adi or after Zaid's vacating the post for some unknown reason. But when and where Lagit studied the Persian language, proficiency of which was so essential for an Arab Secretary of a Persian king is not known. No further details of Laqit's life and career are recorded by his biographers except the fact that Laqit was suspected of being in love with the wife of the Kisra and that when the Kisra came to know that Laqit had conveyed the news of the Persian forces' march towards his tribe through his verses, his tongue was cut and he was finally killed.3

Among the literary legacies of Laqīt only one ode and a few verses are available. Abul Faraj al-Isbahāni says :

«Laqit-b-Bakr is one of the ancient Pre-Islamic Poets who is not prolific writer. From among his poems only one Qasida and a few interesting verses are known».4

- 1. al-Aghāni, Vol. II, pp. 18 28 29.
- 2. al-Aghāni, Vol. II, p. 22.
- 3. Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam Vol. I, p. 72. Mukhtārāt by Ibn Shajari, p. 1.
- 4. al-Aghāni, Vol. 20, p. 23.

Laqit is, however, said to have left a Diwān by his bibliographers. But the Diwān which is extant in the following libraries comprises nothing more than a long Qasida itself indicates. In an article on «Kutub ḥane i-Feizie in der Nāhe der Fāteh Mosche und Asif Efendi», O. Rescher has recorded a Diwān of Laqit-b-Y'amur under No. 1662 (Foll. 204 - 207).^I Laqīt's Diwān is also notified in the catalogues of the following libraries :

- Diwān Laqīţ-b-Ya'mur al-Iyādi compiled on the authority of Abul Mundhir Hishām-b-Muḥammad-b-al-Sa'ib, Ibn al-Kalbi (d. 206. H), Faizullah No. 1662 (Folio 4)².
 - 2. Another copy of the same in Aya Sofia No. 3933 (Fol. 10)³.
- 3. Diwān Laqīt-b-Ya'mur, Chester Beatty Library, Dublin No. 5474 (Fol. 9).
 - 4. Qasidat Laqit-b-Ya'mur al-Iyādī, Fihrist Abi Bakr Mohd. b-Khair-b-Umar-b-Khalīfa al-Umawi al-Ashbīlī, p. 398.

The Diwan of Laqit we have selected for our critical edition is a manuscript in the Chester-Beatty Library. It is written

- 2. Fihrist Ma'had'l Makhtūtāt al-'Arabiya, Cairo (Fihrist al Makhtūtāt al-Muşawwara Vol. I, p. 466 (1954).
- 3. Ibid.

Zeitschrift der Deutchen Morgenlandischen Gazelschaft Vol. 68, p. 382. See also GDAL. Brockellman Suppl. I, p. 55.

in fine Naskh¹ by Yāqūt al-Musta'şimi (d. 698 . H/1298 A.D.).²

How much importance was given to Laqit's Qasida and in what high estimation he was held may be ascertained by the fact that Ibn Shajari has given it first place in his *Selections of Arabic Poetry* and it is written by as eminent a calligraphist as Yaqūt al-Musta'simi.² Ibn Duraid is said to have stated that no ode of warning was composed by the Arabs better than this Qasīda and in *Kāmil* of al-Mubarrid Laqīt is quoted for describing the best qualification of a Leader and a Commander.³

Date of its Composition

In view of contradictory reports, it is difficult to determine the date and place of the event on which this ode of Laqīț was composed. Ibn Qutaiba, our earliest source of information on Laqīț's ode does not mention either the place or the name of the war about which the ode was written. The gist of his statement is that Iyād raided Anūsherwān's dominion and took away his wealth and property. So the Persian king sent his forces against them who were defeated on more than one skirmish. After the tribes of Iyād encamped in the Arabian Peninsula the Kisra sent still a larger

- I. Mr. Fuat Seizgen has also mentioned a Diwan transcribed by Yaqut, but he has ascribed it to Laqīt-b-Bukair al-Muhāribi. See Suppl. Geschichte by Fuat Seizgen.
- 2. See his life and works Encyclopaedia of Islām Yaqūt.
- 3. Orient and Occident, by Th. Benfey Vol. I. Th. Noldeke's contri-bu tion, p. 117.

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force sixty thousand strong. So Laqit who was left behind in al-Hira sent an ode warning his tribe about the advance of the Persian forces towards them. Thus, the tribes of Iyād got ready and prepared themselves to fight against the Persian army. They fought against the Persians so bravely that they had to retreat.¹

Similarly in another earliest source of al-Aghāni by Abul Faraj al-Isbahāni, it is mentioned that the Iyād continued raiding the peaceful citizens of the suburbs of Irāq and in one of their raids when they captured a high born Persian bride, the Persians of neighbouring places attacked them, but they were defeated by the Iyād who had collected heaps of their skulls in a place near a monastery which after the name of the skulls is called Dayre Jamājim. When this news reached the Persian king, he sent a cavalry regiment of 4000 soldiers against them. This news was conveyed by Laqīt through his ode to his tribe. But his warning was, however, disregarded, and the Persian army fell upon the tribe in a place called Marj-al-Akam and defeated the Iyad in this battle of Yaum-al-Furāt. They then migrated to the suburbs of Syria.²

The above mentioned two statements are not only vague but also contradictory. According to Ibn Qutaiba this unnamed battle was provoked by the Iyād's raids, but on account of Laqīț's warning Iyād got ready and forced the Persian army to retreat. But al-Isfahāni says that the Iyād's capture

^{1.} K. al-Shi'r Wal-Shu'ara ed. De Goeje 1904, pp. 97 - 98.

^{2.} al-Aghāni, Vol. XX, p. 23. See also Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam, Vol. I, pp. 67 - 71.

of a Persian bride brought about the wars and Lagit's warning was neglected by the Iyad who were taken unprepared and defeated. As Isfahāni has admitted that on the authority of al-Ziādi what ever he has stated about 'Adi-b-Zaid and al-Nu'man-b-al-Mundhir whose political relations with the Persian kings have brought about these wars between Iyad and Persian armies is full of confusion and not reliable, no importance may be attached to these traditions.¹ Ibn Qutaiba's statement, though vague, tallies in many respects with what has been stated in 'Iqd-al-Farid and Tarikh Tabari. Among the early sources on Laqit, 'Iqd al-Farid is the only work in which it is definitely stated that Lagit composed his famous odes on the event of Dhu Qār.² This fact has been accepted by later authors such as Jād Maula and al-Fajāwī in their Ayyām-al-'Arab.3 To clarify the vague points of Ibn Outaiba's statement a brief account of the battle of Dhu Qar is given below.

The Battle of Dhu Qār

In '*Iqd-al-Farid*, *Mu*'*jam-al-Buldān* and *Kitāb-al-Aghāni* and *Tarikh Țabari* a detailed account of the battle of Dhu Qār is given. All these sources agree that the killing of 'Adi-b-Zaid by al-Nu'man-b-al-Mundhir, the ruler of al-Hira had brought about this catastrophe. It is therefore necessary to examine briefly the relationship of 'Adi-b-Zaid between the rulers of al-Hira and the kings of Persia.

1. al-Aghāni, Vol. II, p. 35.

2. 'Iqd-al-Farid, Vol. III, p. 97.

3. Ayyām-al-'Arab, 1942, p. 8.

'Adi-b-Zaid al-'Ibādi comes of a Christian family of al-Hira (Messopotamia) whose forefathers have served as secretaries in the Chancery of the kings of al-Hira who ruled under the mandate of the Persian kings. As 'Adi-b-Zaid had attained his education in a Persian school of al-Hira, he was proficient both in the Arabic and Persian languages. 'Adi-b-Zaid' was appointed Secretary to al-Mundhir, the king of al-Hira, in his father's place. In course of time it so happened that he fell in love with Hind, the daughter of Prince al-Nu'mān son of al-Mundhir and finally she was married to him.¹

Al-Mundhir, the king of al-Hira had left his thirteen sons before he died in the Trusteeship of Qubaisat-al-Tai'y whom he had made ruler in charge of the State until the Persian king took his final decision in the matter.² In the meanwhile, 'Adi-b-Zaid, an Arab Christian who was for the first time appointed as Secretary in the Chancery of the Persian king on account of his proficiency in the Persian language, had acquired so much confidence of the Kisra that he, in consultation with 'Adi-b-Zaid, selected al-Nu'mān from among al-Mundhir's thirteen children and made him ruler of al-Hira.³ Now the rival party of al-Nu'mān and the enemies of 'Adi-b-Zaid began to poison the ears of al-Nu'mān-bal-Mundhir against 'Adi-b-Zaid. They succeeded in their intrigues to such an extent that al-Nu'mān invited 'Adi to

- She is said to have lived long and met al-Mughira-b-Shu'ba when he was appointed by Mu'awiya as Governor of Kūfa. See al-Aghani, Vol. II, pp. 22 - 35.
- 2. Al-Aghāni, Vol. II, pp. 22 35.
- 3. Ibid.

his court, put him into his prison and finally killed him $(d. 587)^{T}$ although the king of Persia was made to believe that he died a natural death.

In the place of 'Adi-b-Zaid, his son Zaid-b-'Adi was made secretary to the Kisra.² Zaid along with one of his colleagues was sent by Kisra to al-Nu'mān to get beautiful Arab girls for him and his sons to marry. Al-Nu'mān infuriated at this demand, turned them back with a harsh reply which provoked the Persian king.³ The Kirsa sent for al-Nu'mān to his court, imprisoned him and put him under the feet of an elephant to be trampled to death. In another version al-Nu'mān is said to have died of plague in one of the prisons of Kisra either at Khaniqain or Ṣābat a little before the advent of Islam.⁴

After the death of al-Nu'mān, Kisra wrote to Iyās-b-Qubaisa, one of his governors in al-Hira to send him all that belonged to al-Nu'mān-b-al-Mundhir. But when Iyās approached Hāni-b-Qubaisa, to whom al-Nu'mān had entrusted all his family, he refused to give them saying that they are a trust which can be given only to the person who had placed them in his trust.⁵ On the advice of Nu'mān-b-Zur'a, one of the enemies of Banī Shaibān and Bakr-b-Wāil, Kisra waited till the summer season when the tribes of Bakr-b-

- 2. See al-Aghāni, Vol. II, pp. 22 25.
- 3. Ibid.
- 4. Ibid.
- 5. 'Iqd-al-Fārīd Vol. III, p. 97. See also Mu'jam-al-Buldān ed. Khānji, 1906, Vol. VII, p. 8.

^{1.} See al-Bayan Wal-Tabyin ed. al-Sandubi, 1947, Vol. I, p. 61.

Wāil (Banū Shaibān, Banū 'Igil and Banū Yashkur) came to sojourn near their springs and oasis called Dhu Qār. When Banū Shaibān arrived in Dhu Qār, Kisra challenged them to choose one of the following three alternatives :

- 1. Either they should surrender and hand over all that belonged to al-Nu^cmān.
- 2. Or they should vacate the lands (boundries of Persian empire).
- 3. Or they should get ready to face the onslaught of the Persian armies.

On this occasion all the heads of the tribes of Bani Rabi'ab-Dhuhl-b-Shaibān and Bakr-b-Wāil consulted among themselves as to what attitude they should take. At first opinion differed, but they finally agreed to fight the Persian army to the last breath and they fought so desperately that the Persian army had to retreat.^I In 'Iqd-al-Farīd it is mentioned that on this event of Dhu Qār the poet Laqīt who was working as secretary in the Diwān of Kisra sent his famous ode to the people of Iyād and Bani Shaibān persuading them to get ready and face the Persian forces bravely.²

This leads us to another complicated problem of determining the date and year of this event of Dhu Qār. C. J. Lyall in his edition of al-Mufaddaliyāt mentions in his note on the migration of Iyād in the verse 16 of Akhnas-b-Shihāb

- 1. 'Iqd-al-Farid, Vol. III, p. 97.
- 2. 'Iqd, Vol. III, p. 97.

al-Taghlibi «In the absence of all indications of dates in the confused traditions about Iyad, it is impossible to say when this event happened».¹ Similarly, there are confused and contradictory reportes as to when and during what Kisra's reign this battle of Dhu Qar occurred. 'Iqd-al-Farid, Mukhtārāt-b-Shajarī and al-A'lām of Zirikli, and Mu'jam-al-Mu'allifin mention that it occurred during the reign of Sābūr Dhu'l Aktāf² who cut the shoulders of those who brought to him the sad news of his army's defeat. Ibn Qutaiba3 and al-'Amedi4 mention that it was Anū Sherwan who invaded the tribes of Iyad and during his reign Laqit sent his ode to his people. Al-Isbahani in his Kitāb-al-Aghāni⁵ says it was during the Kisra's reign and al-Bakri in his Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam⁶ states that it was either Kisra-b-Hurmuz or Anūsherwān-b-Qubāz who waged war against Iyad. But none of these sources have given the exact period of the battle of Dhu Qar, although they have made vague references to many other expeditions which took place round about this event. Al-Tabari, however, has stated with definiteness that the battle of Dhu Qar occurred during the reign of Kisra Perwiz son of Hurmuz.7 Al-Tabari's statement is based on the chronological data which he has collected about the extent of the reign of each

- I. The Mufaddaliyat, by C.J. Lyall, Vol. II, pp. 152 153.
- 2. 'Iqd-al-Farid, Vol. III, p. 97. Mukhtārāt, p. 1, Mu'jam Mu'allifin VIII, p. 157.
- 3. K. al-Shi'r Wal-Shu'ara ed. de Goeje, pp. 97 98.
- 4. Mu'jam-al-Shu'ara, ed. Krenkow, p. 175.
- 5. al-Aghāni, Vol. XX, p. 23.
- 6. Mu'jam Ma Ista'jam, Vol. I, pp. 67 71.
- 7. Tarikh Tabari, Vol. I, Pt. 2, p. 1015. ed. De Goeje, Brill, 1881.

king of Persia. According to al-Tabari, the following table No. I shows the reigning period of each Emperor of Persia and Table No. 2 indicates the period of the rule of each Arab ruler of the dynasty of 'Al Nasr-b-Rabi'a who ruled over al-Hira (Mesopotamia) as Governors of the Persian Emperors.

Table No. 1 (Kings of Persia) Table No. 2 (Kings of Hira) 'Amr b. 'Adi b. Nasr b. Rabi'a. Ardsher b. Babek b. Sasan b. Babek Imra'l-Qais al-Badi' (114 years = 23 b. Zarar b. Bahafrid b. Sasan (the years during Sabur & Ardsher, one great) b. Bahman b. Isfandyar b. year & ten days during Hurmuz b. Bishtap b. Lahrasp (reigned 14 years Sabur, three years & three months & ten months) during Bahram b. Hurmuz b. Sabur, 18 years during Bahram b. Bahram Sabur (30 years & 15 days) b. Bahram b. Hurmuz. The first who embraced Christianity. Hurmuz (one year & ten days) 'Amr b. Imra'l-Qais (during Sabūr Bahrām (three years, three months Dhu'l-Aktāf) five years.Died b. & three days) during Sabūr b. Sabūr. Bahrām (eighteen years) ?? 'Aus b. Qullam. Died during Bahram b. Sabur Dhi 'l-Aktaf. Shahinshah Bahrām Narsi (four years) Imra'l-Qais al-Badi' (25 years; died (nine years) during Yazdgerd-Atheem) Hurmuz (6 or 7 years & 5 months) al-Nu'mān b. Imra'l-Qais al-Badi' (became Rahib). Sabur Dhu'l Aktaf (12 year) Ardsher (dethroned after 4 years) Sabūr Bahrām (Kirman Shah) (five years) (eleven years) Yazdgird (al-Atheem)

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(22 years, 5 months & 16 days).

Table I	
Table I Yazdgerd al-Atheem Bahrām Jore al-Khishan Yazdgerd (18 years, 4 months)	al-Mundhir- 8 years, 9 Gore-b-Yazo Yazdgerd-b- during Fer Al-Aswad-b-
Feroz Hurmuz (Killed by his (26 years) brother Feroz) Balash Qubāz (43 years) (4 years) Kisra Anūsherwān-b-Qubāz (48 years, after 42 years of his reign the Prophet was born in Arabia) ²	(10 years du 4 years du 6 years du al-Mundhir- Nu'man bron Abu Ja'far- (Ruled as s for 3 years)
Hurmuz (11 years, 9 months, 10 days) Kisra Perwiz (38 years, after 20 years of his reign, the Prophet	al-Mundhir- (49 years) 'Amr-b-al-M 8 years 8 ma

b-al-N'umān (44 years, months during Bahrām dgerd, 18 months during Bahram, 17 months oz)

Table II

-'lMundhir (20 years) ring Feroz-b-Yazdgerd, ring Balash-b-Yazdgerd, ing Qubaz-b-Feroz)

b-al-Mundhir (b-alther of al-Aswad (7 years)

b-Algama al-Nu'mān substitute bin al-Aswad (4 years)

b-Imra'l Qais al-Badi'

Aundhir (16 years) after onths of 'Amrs' rull, the Prophet was born

(His brother Qabūs-b-'l Mundhir, 4 years during Anüsherwän, 3 years, 4 months during Hurmuz b-Anūsherwān).

1. These Tables are based on the accounts of «Muluk Furs» in Tarikh al - Jabari, Vol. I. Part 2, p. 813 - 854 - 900 - 1015 - 1016, ed. De Goeje, Brill 1881.

2. Al-Tabari, Vol. I. Part 2 p. 966.

declared his message and after 32 years 5 months the Prophet

Sherwaih (Qubāz) (8 months)

migrated to al-Madina)

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      al-Suhrāb

      Ardesher (one year 6 months)
      al-Mundhir (4 years during Hurmuz)

      Sherezār (40 days)
      al-Nu'mān-b-al-Mundhir Abu Qāb-

      Būrān (daughter of Perwiz)
      ūs (22 years) (7 years, 9 months

      (one year, 4 months)
      during Hurmuz-b-Anūsherwān and

      Jashanda
      14 years, 4 months during Perwiz

      b-Hurmuz
      |

      Iyās-b-Qubaisa al-Taiy (9 years)
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A comparative study of these two tables indicates that al-Nu'mān-b-al-Mundhir, Abū Qābūs, whose death is said to have been the main cause of the battle of Dhu Qār, ruled over al-Hīra for seven years and eight months under the suzerainty of Hurmuz-b-Anūsherwān and for fourteen years and four months during the reign of Kisra Perwiz-b-Hurmuz.^I After the death of al-Nu'mān-b-al-Mundhir Abū Qābūs, details of which are given above, Kisra Perwizb-Hurmuz appointed Iyās-b-Qubaisa al-Țaiy as governor of al-Hīra, who led the Persian army against the tribes of Banū Shaibān in the battlefield of Dhu Qār.²

The above mentioned facts are further confirmed by other chronological data which al-Tabari has collected on the

1. Al-Tabari, Vol. I, p. 1016.

2. Al-Tabari, Vol. I, Pt. 2, pp. 1015 - 1016 - 1031 - 1038.

basis of the dates of birth, mission and migration of the Prophet to al-Madina. In accordance with al-Tabari's conclusions, the Prophet was born in 42 regnal year of the Kisra Anūsherwān-b-Qabāz¹, that is the year of the elephant which falls in 570 in the Christian era. As Anūsherwān became king in 528 A.D. and ruled for forty eight years, it means that the Prophet was six years old when Anüsherwän died and his son Hurmuz ascended the throne (576 A.D.). We have seen that Hurmuz reigned for eleven years, nine months and ten days. The Prophet therefore might have been about eighteen years old when Kisra Perwiz succeeded his father as King of Persia (588 A.D.). As al-Tabari says that in the twentieth regnal year of Kisra Perwiz, the Prophet received his apostolic mission, it confirms what other Arab historians record, that the Prophet received his first revelation when he was about forty years old which in the Christian era comes to 610 A.D. Al-Tabari² has further recorded that after the expiry of thirty two years, five months and fifteen days from date of Perwiz' coronation, the Prophet migrated to al-Madina, that is after twelve years of his receiving the Prophetic mission, which is approximately what other historians have calculated to be 622 in the Chris-

1. Ibid.

2. Ibid. These dates compare favourably with what Sir Percy Sykes has cited. According to Sykes, Nosherwan succeded in 531 A.D. Nosherwan's Arabian Campaign against Abysinian Abraha occurred in 576 A.D. and accession of Khusrow Perwiz was in 590 A.D. and the battle of Dhu Qār in 610 A.D. and the Deposition and Death of Khusrow Perwiz in 628 A.D. See History of Persia, P. Sykes, Vol. I, pp. 449 - 486.

tian era. If the above conclusions are correct, which ought to be, the battle of Dhu Qār might have occurred some time after the Prophet had received his apostolic mission ; that is because when the battle of Dhu Qār took place, Iyāsb-Qubaisa was governor of al-Hīra, the dates of which as given by al-Tabari and others correspond to each other as follows¹ :

Sykes* Histoy of Persia, Vol. I	Prophet was born in 570 during Anüsherwān's reign his 42 regnal year Declared as Prophet in 610 (20 years	after Parwiz's reign). 	Prophet Migrated to al-Madina in 622	ŕmãn	years after about	.D.)	rmuz 8 yers	586	wiz <u>15</u> 601	it died 602	ars 9	611
	Nusherwan succeeded in 576 A.D. Prophet was born in 570 during (His campaign against Abraha in 576 Anüsherwān's reign his 42 regna (the year of elephant or the year of Declared as Prophet in 610 (20	prophet's birth Perwiz's accessin in 590 A.D. Battle of Dhu Qār in 610 A.D.	Perwiz's Death in 628	al-Nu'män	(became Ruler two years after about	578 A.D.)	Reinged during Hurmuz		Reigned during Perwiz	Iyās became ruler but died 602	ruled for about 9 years	
al-Tabari	r Anúsherwan became king in 528 A.D. Reigned for 48	576 Hurmuz	became king in 576	Reigned for 12	588	Perwiz	became king in 589	reigned for 38	626			

It is obvious from the above tables that Iyas-b-Qubaisa who commanded the Persian army in the battle of Dhu Qar became ruler of al-Hira (Mesopotamia) in 602 A.D. approximately and as he is said to have ruled for nine years, his reign might have come to an end at about 611 A.D. It naturally follows that the battle of Dhu Qar might have taken place somewhere between 610 and 611 A.D. which happens to be the date when the Prophet received his apostolic mission and declared the message of Islam. It is in this context that besides the historians like al-Tabari,¹ Ibn 'Abd Rabbihi,² and Yaqut-al-Hamawi,3 a traditionist Ibn Sa'd (d.)4 records that when the news of the Persian army's defeat at the battle of Dhu Qar was conveyed to the Prophet, he said «this is the (1st) day when the Arabs have defeated the (Power of) 'Ajams». There is a difference of opinion as to when the tradition — concerning the event of Dhu Qar began. Yāqūt-al-Hamawī is doubtful as he says that some hold that the battle of Dhu Qar occurred when the Prophet was born and some are of the opinion that the tradition was uttered when the Prophet was returning from the battle of Badr.⁵ But al-Tabari⁶ and Ibn 'Abd Rabbihi⁷ are

- I. حذا أول يوم انتصرت فيه العرب من العجم وني نصروا ... when justice is done to the Arabs against the 'Ajams and on account of me they succeeded. *«al-Tabari*, Vol I, Part. 2, P. 1015.
- 2. 'Iqd-al-Farid, Vol. III, p. 95 (Dhu Qār).
- 3. Mu'jam-al-Buldan, ed. Khānji, 1906, Vol. VII, p. 8.
- اخبرت عن خليفة بن خياط قال حدثنا محمد بن سواء قال : حدثنا الأشعب الضبعي عن .4 بشير بن زيد الضبعي وكان قد أدرك الحاهلية قال : قال رسول الله صلاقي يوم ذيقار : اليوم اليوم انتقصت العرب ملك العجم
- 5. Mu'jam-al-Buldān, ed. Khānji, 1906, Vol. VII, p. 8.
- 6. al-Jabari, Vol. I, Pt. 2, p. 1029.
- 7. 'Iqd-al-Farid, Vol. III, p. 95.

unanimous in stating that the battle of Dhu Qar took place after the Prophet had received his apostolic mission. As the Prophet was born during the reign of Anūsherwan long before the battle of Dhu Qar and as the tradition quoted cannot have arisen at the birth of the Prophet, the first statement of Yāqūt is obviously wrong. The second statement of Yāqūt also appears to be incorrect as the period of the governorship of Iyas who commanded the Persian army in Dhu Qar, was over by 611 A.D. while the battle of Badr took place in 624 A.D., thirteen years after the battle of Dhu Qar. Therefore the above mentioned statement of al-Tabari and Ibn 'Abd Rabbihi appear to be more correct as the battle of Dhu Qar might have occurred before the Prophet's migration to al-Madina and during the governorship of Iyas-b-Qubaisa who ruled for nine years only (i.e. 611 A.D.).

Modern historians also have arrived at the same conclusion according to their calculation. Speaking about the battle of Dhu Qār, Sir Percy Sykes says in his *History of Persia* «This period, between A.D. 604 and 610 according to Nöldeke but A.D. 611 according to Mui^c there occurred a short campaign which passed almost unnoticed at the time, but was recognized in later years as fraught with consequences of grave importance. On the Eastern edge of the desert which separates the valley of the Euphrates from Jerusalem, the Arab State of Hīra at this period was ruled by a chief named Noman. Owing to a subtle intrigue woven by a deadly enemy who knew that the Arabs were unwilling to give their daughters to the Persians, Khusrow Perwiz heard of the beauty of Noman's daughters and desire was kindled to add her to his extensive seraglieo. The Arab Prince declined the honour and the great king, incensed at the refusal, sent an army under Iyas of the Tayy tribe, who had aided him during his fight with orders to seize Noman and his state. News of the expedition preceded it and Noman escaped to the Shaiban to whose chief, Hani, he confided his property. He then came to plead his cause in person before the great king by whom he was executed. The Shaiban were called upon to surrender the property of Noman, but refused. An expedition of 4000 strong composed of Arabs and Persians was despatched to execute the commands of the great king and after a series of conflicts the Arab contingent deserted during the final battle of Zu Qar and the Persian army was cut to pieces.» As Tabari puts it : «This was the first occasion on which the Arabs took revenge on the Persians. This remark hardly conveys the momentous consequences of the battle which was fought just as Mohammad began his career. Had it ended in a Persian victory, the difficulties of the Arab invaders would have been immensely greater and the rise of Islam might have been cut short».1

Now the question that remains to be decided is whether the odes sent by Laqīț to the tribe of Iyād were composed on the occasion of Dhu Qār or any other occasion. Ibn Qutaiba (d. 276. H) al-'Amedī (d. 370. H) and Ibn-al-Shajarī (d. 542. H) do not give the name of the war. Al-Isfahānī (d. 356. H) holds that the odes were composed by Laqīț on the occasion of « Yaum al-Furat » and al-Bakrī (d. 487. H) is of the viw that it was sent to the Iyād by Laqīț on the event of Dair Jamājim. But Ibn 'Abd Rabbihī (d. 327. H) mentions

^{1.} History of Persia by Sir Percy Sykes Vol. I, p. 481.

that Laqit sent his verses to Bani Shaibān on the occasion of Dhu Qār.

To decide this controversial issue, it is advisable to examine the verses themselves on the basis of both external and internal evidences. As far as the external circumstances are concerned, it is necessary to recapitulate the event of Dhu $Q\bar{a}r$, the main causes which led to this war, the tribes which joined to defend themselves against the imperial armies and the place and date during which the poet flourished and composed his ode.

It is already stated that when 'Adi-b-Zaid al-'Ibadi, the Arab Secretary to Kisra Perwiz was brought to the prison of al-Nu'man-b-al-Mundhir due to his court intrigues and finally killed, Zaid son of 'Adi was appointed in his father's place as secretary to Kisra Perwiz. Owing to the machinations of Zaid-b-'Adi, al-Nu'mān-b-al-Mundhir was blacklisted and incurred the displeasure of Kisra Perwiz and was finally summoned to the court of the Persian Emperor.² But al-Nu'man, disregarding the summons, ran towards the tribes of Taiy, Banū Bakr-b-Wa'il and Banū Shaibān seeking their help and refuge. He did not seek help of Qaisb-Mas'ūd, the then chief of the Rabi'a tribe purposely as he knew that he was in touch with the Persian king and was his governor in Taff-e-Safwan near Kūfa. He, therefore, met Hanī-b-Qubaisa-b-Hanī-b-Mas'ūd of the tribe of Rabi'ab-Dhuhl-b-Shaiban secretly. On his advice that to die honourably is better than to lead a pauper's life in disgrace,

1. al-Aghani, Vol. II, pp. 22 - 35.

2. Ibid.

al-Nu'mān left his family and all his belongings in the trust of Hani-b-Qubaisa and went to the court of Kisra Perwiz where he was imprisoned and finally^I trampled to death under the feet of an elephant. After al-Nu'mān's death, Kisra Perwiz wrote to Iyās-b-Qubaisa, who was now Persian governor of al-Hīra in place of al-Nu'mān, to confiscate al-Nu'mān's property and to send it on to Kisra. But when Iyās approached Hani-b-Qubaisa he refused to hand over anything to anybody.²

On receiving Kisra Perwiz's ultimatum the tribes of Bakrb-wa'il, Banū 'Igil, Banū Yashkur and Banū Shaibān and their allies conferred among themselves and asked the tribes of Bakr to assemble in the place of Dhu Qār in the valley of the Euphrates to put up a united front against the Persian army.³ The tribes of Iyād, who were in the army of Iyās-b-Qubaisa sent word to the tribes of Bakr secretly asking their advice as to what attitude they should take. Whether they should run away, deserting the armies of the Persian Emperor in the darkness of the night or confront them by defection when they face the Persian army. The tribes of Iyād were advised to stay till the fight began, and then to desert.⁴ The weapons of al-Nu'mān which were entrusted to Hanī-b-Qubaisa were distributed among the tribes⁵ and with these weapons the Arab tribes put up a

- 1. See al-Aghāni and 'Iqd-al-Farid, Vol. III, p. 95.
- 2. 'Iqd-al-Farid, Vol. III, p. 95.
- 3. Ibid. and al-Tabari, Vol. I, Pt. 2, pp. 1015 1039.
- 4. al-Jabari, Vol. I, Pt. 2, p. 1032.
- 5. See its details in 'Iqd-al-Farid Vol. III, p. 95 and al-Tabari, Vol. I, Pt. 2, p. 1031.

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united front and fought the Persians armies so bravely and desperately that the Persian armies had to retreat and they were badly defeated.

The above battle took place at the place of Dhu Qār which is a famous summer resort of the tribes of Banū Bakr in al-Jazīra or the valley of the Tigris and Euphrates. It is already discussed in detail that the war Dhu Qār occurred when Iyās-b-Qubaisa was Governor of al-Hīra in place of al-Nu^cmān. It was the time when the Prophet was preaching Islam in Mecca twenty years after Kisra Perwiz succeeded his father as king of Persia.

It is also noticed that 'Adi-b-Zaid al-'Ibadi, the first Arab Secretary to Kisra Perwiz died in 587 A.D. and some years after his death Zaid son of 'Adi worked in his father's place as Secretary to Kisra Perwiz. In view of the fact that Zaidb-'Adi's date of appointment and the period of his service are not known, Laqit-b-Ya'mur, who is also said to have been Kisra Perwiz's secretary, might have been employed either after Zaid-b-'Adi vacated the post or along with him, In other words, the period of 23 years that passed between 587 A.D. when 'Adi-b-Zaid died and 610 A.D. when the battle of Dhu Qar is likely to have occurred, was a remarkable and revolutionary period in Arab history. It was during this period that al-Nu'man was ruthlessly murdered in 601 A.D. after ruling over al-Hira for about 22 years under the reign of Kisra Perwiz. His death not only awakened the Arabs' national spirit, but also united them for the first time to wage war against the powerful Persian Empire, which put an end to the Persian suzerainty over the Arab kingdom of al-Hira.

As it has been stated above, Iyās-b-Qubaisa-al-Ţaiy was sworn in as Persian governor over al-Hīra after the death of al-Nu'mān either the same or the following year (i.e. 602 A.D.) As Iyās-b-Qubaisa, who led the Persian armies along with Qais-b-Mas'ūd and Hurmuz against the tribes in the battlefield of Dhu Qār, is said to have ruled over al-Hīra for nine years under the reign of Kisra Perwiz, the battle of Dhu Qār might have been place between 610 A.D. and 611 A.D. soon after the Prophet had proclaimed his apostolic mission in Arabia.

Having determined the age of the Poet Lagit-b-Ya'mur and the date and place of the event of Dhu Qar which are closely connected with each other, let us turn to the examination of the internal evidence in Laqit's Qasidas themselves. On close scrutiny of the Qasidas it appears that at the outset the poet has (in verse No. 1 of Ode No.I) made direct appeal to his tribe of Iyad, who lived in the Jazira, the very battlefield of Dhu Qar and who by deserting had played an important role in turning the tables against the Persian armies in the battle of Dhu Qar. The poet has directed his appeal in particular towards the heads of the tribes who, as we know, were divided in their opinion before the war place (see Verse 8 of Ode II). The poet expressing his sorrow on the pitiable plight of the tribes says that one of their groups considers itself too weak to fight and the other is afraid of the might of the Persian armies. (see Verse 18 of Ode II). This theme corresponds with what Hani-b-Qubaisa said in the tribal conference that they should wander away into the deserts as they have no power to face the huge armies of Persia. The tribes of Bani Hanifa did not attend the conference, it was only Sayyar al'Igili who stood for waging war.¹ At this critical moment, warning them that a huge Persian army (6000 strong) is marching to destroy them, the Poet persuades them to be united and to prepare for war and to stop all their occupation in tilling the soil and breeding livestock (see verses No. 2 and 3 of Ode I and 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 of Ode II). He instigates them saying that Kisras are not to be relied upon in matters of womenfolk and advises them to protect them (see verses 24 and 29 of Ode II). This theme also, as we have seen, is one of the main causes which brought about the downfall of al-Nu'man and finally led to the battle of Dhu Qar. The last but not least evidence of its being composed on the event of Dhu Qar is that the names of places which are mentioned in these two Oasidas are exactly the same as those which are situated round about the battlefield of Dhu Qar. The names of places mentioned in these Qasidas are as follows : Al-Jazira, Banū Salutaha, Dhāt-al-giz'a, Dhāt-al-'Adhba, Bisha, Thahlān.

Al-Jazira means the valley of Tigris and Euphrates.

Salutaha near the mountain. Bishr is also a place in this valley.

Dhāt-al-giz'a and Dhāt-al-'Adhba are also places near Basra. Thahlān is a mountain near.

Bisha is a valley between Tehāma and Turaba.

All these places are situated in the valley of the Tigris and Euphrates called al-Jazīra which has been the battlefield of Dhu Qār.

I. 'Iqd-al-Farid Vol. III, p. 95.

The above mentioned internal and external evidences with regard to the date and place of Yaum Dhu Qār, the part played by Iyād is this war which resulted into total defeat of the Persian invasion and the age of the poet Laqīt and the themes of his Qasidas all lead us to conclude that Laqīt's Qasidas justify the statmente of Ibn 'Abd Rabbihi that they were written on the event of Dhu Qār, which took place in 610 A.D. when the Prophet stated «this is the first day in which justice has been done to the Arabs against the 'Ajams and on account of me they succeeded.^I

Review of the Laqit's Poems

Only two odes of Laqit are extant. They appear to be a part of larger works. Four verses of the ode rhyming in 'Dal' and fifty five verses of the second ode rhyming in 'Ain' are available. Ibn Qutaiba quotes four verses of the first Qasida and nine of the second. Similarly, al-Isbahāni, al-'Amedi, al-Bakri, Ibn 'Abd Rabbihi and the author of al-Hamasatal Basriyya have quoted only a few verses out of the above two Qasidas. But Ibn Shajari in his Selection of Arab Poetry and copying from him, al-Mursafi in his commentary on al-Kāmil by al-Mubarred entitled Raghbat al-'Amil have quoted fifty five verses, while the Diwan edited by Nöldeke comprises fifty two verses of the second ode and four verses of the first ode only. But the Diwan written by Yaqut al-Musta'simi which we have preferred to edit contains four verses of the first and forty six of the second ode.

I. See Tarikh al-Tabari, Vol. I, Pt. 2, p. 1015.

A comparative study of the Diwan edited by Noldeke and the Diwan written by Yāgūt, indicates that Yāgūt's copy is more authentic and correct. Noldeke's edition is based on three Berlin manuscripts catalogued by Springer under Nos. 1176, 1180 and 1123 which is transcribed in the seventh century after the Hijra and is supposed to be a complete text of Lagit's poems. These Diwans are compiled on the authority of Hishām-b-al-Kalbī. They appear to have been similar to what are preserved in the Libraries of Turkey under No. 1662 Faizulla and No. 3933 Aya Sofia. The introductory part of this Diwan contains reports similar to what Ibn Qutaiba has stated about the Iyad, Laqit and his odes. Besides this al-Bakri states that Lagit was a secretary in the Diwan of Kisra; and therefore he conveyed information about the Persian expedition to his tribe of Iyad. But in Nöldeke's edition, it is mentioned that Laqit used to sojourn in al-Hira. When he came to know that Persian forces were advancing towards his people, he conveyed this news to the Iyad who were then in the valley of the Euphrates (called by the Arabs the land between the two rivers as Island). This point is also referred to in the manuscript of the Diwan transcribed by Yaqut-al-Musta'simi. The first portion of the introductory part of Noldeke's edition is missing in the Yāqūt's codex. Similarly many verses of Nöldeke's edition such as verses nos. 15, 19, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, are not found in Yāqūt's codex. Some verses such as verse No. 12 of Yāqūt's recension is not found in Nöldeke's edition.

Although the commentaries of the verses in both textes tally with each other, yet the annotation of some verses given in Yāqūt's text is not found in Nöldeke's edition and vice versa. The verses in both texts differ not only in their numbers but also in varient readings. Additional verses and even entirely different versions of certain verses are also found scattered in various literary works. To illustrate this fact a few examples of the texts are given below :

Yaqut's Codex

Nödeke's Edition

Verse 2 البيعا اتىعا Verses 4 and its commentary missing إني بعيني أرى بعيني Verse 5 من تبعاً ہ, تبعا Verse 5 إلا أن يستملكوكم فلا يبقوا منكم احداً إلا أن يستأصلوكم .Verse 16 com تعظم أولادها Verse 19 صعقا وهو من ذا كنع ... Verse 23 com وهو من داء کنعا Verses 29 and 34 and their 29 and 34 and their commentary missing commantary in Noldeke's Edition Verse 29 com. زمع عليه ازمع عليه

It may not be out of place here to mention that vocalization of both texts also differs in many places, but here it has not been taken into consideration.

Both odes of Laqit seem to be a genuine and spontaneous expression of the actual feelings of the poet. It is quite possible that various versions of certain verses might have

existed in oral tradition, and even extra verses might have been added to the original ode from different sources by the oral transmitters of ancient poetry. Nevertheless Laqit's fluency, his excellent diction and ancient idiom distinguish themselves from the spurious ones. In view of the above facts Nöldeke's and Caskel's remarks with regard to the interpolation of the following verses appear to be irrelevant. Caskel following in the footsteps of Nöldeke says that verse 26 is a duplication of verse 37.1 But this is not correct, that is because in verse 26 the poet advises his tribe to sacrifice all that they have dearest to their heart for defending their honour and that of their women; and in verse 37 the poet lays emphasis in particular on protrcting the honour of their womenfolk against the Kisra and his armies who are bent upon their humiliation. As we know that the basic issue of the conflict was that al-Nu'man had rejected the Kisra's demand to give his daughters in marriage, the poet's emphasis on this theme in verse 37 is quite justified. Similarly Nöldeke's criticism concerning verses Nos. 11 and 35 as to their being Islamic concepts and later additions is again due to misinterpretation and to a misunderstanding of the real situation. In verse No. 11 the poet reminds his people that the Persians are Godless and therefore wicked as they are not followers of any religion ; and in verse No. 35 the poet persuades them not to involve themselves in

^{1.} I thank Professor Rosenthal for translating some of these passages from the German and French works of Nöldeke and Caskel.

worldly temptations. Both these concepts are Islamic as well as Christian. Knowing as we do that Laqit and his tribe belonged to the Christian community in Pre-Islamic Arabia and that the Persians were Zoroastrians, the above mentioned views of the poet are quite in accord with his Christian beliefs. Therefore the question of interpolation in these verses does not arise. This fact seems to have escaped the notice of Nöldeke who could not see Laqit in his true perspective owing to confusing and contradictory stories that have been woven around him.

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I. Greetings from Laqit through this letter, to those of the tribe of Iyād who dwell in the land between the rivers.

II. The Lion Kisra has come to you; may not your occupation with the grazing of goats cause you to ignore his approach.

III. Sixty thousand armed men have come, pressing forward their hosts like locusts.

IV. With a swelling heart we have come to you, as this may be the time of your destruction like that of the tribes of 'Ad.

Ode II

[When the cavalry of Kisra advanced, Laqīț sent the following verses to Iyād while they were in the land between the rivers, warning them, and inciting them to gather strength and make themselves ready (for battle) and describing the horsemen as follows.]

I. O abode of 'Amra in the sand-dunes, the place where she used to dwell, to see it derelict has excited my sorrows (and filled me with) anguish and pain.

II. At the turn of the valley a young damsel has captured my heart ; and carried it with her to the chapel of Dhāt al'Adhba.

III. She is of fastidious nature, does not adhere to her

purpose: neither frustration of hopes, nor the attainment of ambition are to be expected of her.

IV. Her dream comes to me wherever my saddles are placed (i.e. wherever I am encamped). It keeps me awake in spite of my being afar off.

V. When their baggage-train moves toward the place of Salutaha, they do not look to what is being followed by them; but I with my own eyes have seen them marching forward.

VI. Sometimes I see them going, and sometimes I am unable to see them, as they shine for a while, and then disappear in the mirage.

VII. O you who are driving your camel in haste towards the land between the rivers in search of grass and water.

VIII. Convey to the tribe of Iyād my message, and to their leaders in particular; I have a word to tell them, of the meaning of which there can be no doubt, provided I am not disobeyed.

IX. How sad it is that you are disunited and your affairs in confusion, while others are united and welle-organised.

X. Truly, are you not afraid of the people who are speeding towards you in huge numbers, like locusts,

XI. Sons of the people who are in anger have come to you, and do not care whether God does them right or wrong.

XII. They are nobles of Persia, sons of kings, whose armies look down upon mountains and clouds.

XIII. They are marching speedily towards you, gathering weapons and deadly poisons for you.

XIV. If their armies were to fall on highpeaked mountains like that of Thahlan, it would break into pieces.

XV. Everyday they are grinding their spears and lances for you without taking rest, while you who are neglectful are drowned in slumber.

XVI. Neither does farming keep them busy, nor do they care for their material comforts; they aim at nothing but the destruction of your homeland.

XVII. And you, you are foolishly occupied with the cultivation of the land, desiring a rich harvest everywhere;

XVIII. And with the breeding of livestock, and the increase of your herds, at the camping grounds, soon to be deserted.

XIX. You are split into two sections; the one is not strong enough to fight the advancing bold enemy; the other is perishing in fear.

XX. Beginning from your borders, grave danger is gradually encircling you.

XXI. I am amazed to see you drowned in the sleep of negligence, although you know that the shooting star of war has appeared.

XXII. Quench therefore my thirst with such good stratagems, as may revive my depressed spirits. XXIII. Do not become like the downcast person whose soul shrinks up whenever he is bidden to get rid of sorrow.

XXIV. Protect your horses, clean your swords, and prepare arrows and strings for your bows.

XXV. Spend your ancestral wealth in the defence of your soul's honour, and in guarding your women-folk, and do not perish out of fear and fright.

XXVI. Do not forsake each other when a calamity befalls you, as you desert the tribe of Nakha' in the upper area of Bisha (a valley between Tehāma and Turaba).

XXVII. Intensify the vigilance of your spies in the rear of the advancing troops, and be alert until the invading cavalry have retreated.

XXVIII. Do not let yourselves be deceived by the world and its temptations for it will never allow you to prepare for the conflict.

XXIX. O my people let not the honour of your tribe be afflicted. I fear the encroachment of the world upon it.

XXX. O my people do not trust Kisra and the army he has gathered, where (the safety of) your womenfolk is concerned, if you have regard for their honour.

XXXI. It is an army that will root out your very existence. Nothing like it has anyone seen or heard (before).

XXXII. It is a calamity bent upon your humiliation, whether you fly into a rage or not.

XXXIII. May God bless you. Hand over your affairs to one whe is brave and experienced in matters of war,

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XXXIV. One who does not lead a life of self-indulgence, even when circumstances are happy; nor one who is cast down when adversities befall.

XXXV. one who is alert and not drowsy, who keeps vigilance over your frontiers; whence he advences towards his enemies fully informed (of their movements).

XXXVI. One who has passed through turmoils and vicissitudes, leading at one time and being led at the other,

XXXVII. One whom neither the wealth he has amassed makes him self-indulgent, nor one who is ambitious for his children to attain high positions.

XXXVIII. One who is like (the hero) Malik-b-Qanān or his companion Zaid the bearer of lances, who fought bravely in the battle of Hārithain.

XXXIX. One who, whenever anyone blames him, prepares for adverse circumstances before they occur.

XL. If they come across such an one, and find a brave man who has undergone the experiences of war one after another, and who has hunted lion and (other) wild beasts.

XLI. One who is of strong muscular shoulders, self-respecting, as a combatant in the field of battle, neither weak nor incompetent nor a coward.

XLII. One who is courageous and who in vying with others surpasses them in nobility.

XLIII. I have given you sincere and honest advice. Rouse up; for the best knowledge is that which results in good action.

XLIV. This is my letter of warning to those of you who are able to think and act upon it.

A CRITICAL EDITION OF DIWAN OF LAQIT IEN VAMUE